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**U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Arizona**

**State Director Elaine Zielinski  
Washington, D.C. Congressional Briefings  
March 16, 2006**

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**Elaine Zielinski**  
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**March 16, 2006**

**Thursday, March 16**

10:00 a.m.	Cong. Grijalva	Rachel Kondor	1118 Longworth (202) 225-2435
11:00 a.m.	Cong. Renzi	Jim Lester	418 Cannon (202) 225-2315
11:30 a.m.	Cong. Kolbe (STAFF only) (Kadden is staffing a DHS hearing w/Congressman, will call Laurie's cell if unable to meet)	Jeremy Kadden	237 Cannon 202/225-2542
1:30 p.m.	Cong. Franks	Ross Groen	1237 Longworth (202) 225-4576
2:30 p.m.	Sen. Kyl	Lucy Murfitt	730 Hart (202) 224-4521
4:00 p.m.	Sen McCain (STAFF only) (may get cancelled due to Judiciary markup on immigration)	Becky Jensen	241 Russell (202) 224-2235

**Bureau of Land Management • Arizona State Office**

**Arizona Congressional Staff Contacts**

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Senator John McCain (R)

**AZ - Carlos Sierra, Crystal Caballero**

**WO – Becky Jensen**

Senator Jon Kyl (R)

**AZ - Andy Jacobs**

**WO- Lucy Murfitt**

Dist. 1 Congressman Rick Renzi (R)

**AZ - Teresa Martinez**

**WO - Brian Murray**

Dist. 2 Congressman Trent Franks (R)

**AZ - Shari Farrington**

**WO – Ross Groen**

Dist. 3 Congressman John Shadegg (R)

**AZ - Bruce Raden**

**WO – Lance Wenger**

Dist. 4 Congressman Ed Pastor (D)

**AZ - Ron Piceno**

**WO - Richard Patrick**

Dist 5 Congressman J.D. Hayworth (R)

**AZ - Ryan Serote**

**WO –**

Dist. 6 Congressman Jeff Flake (R)

**AZ - Mary Baumbach**

**WO - Brian Clifford**

Dist. 7 Congressman Raul Grijalva (D)

**AZ - Ruben Reyes**

**WO – Rachel Kondor**

Dist. 8 Congressman Jim Kolbe (R)

**AZ - Kay McLoughlin, Tucson**

**AZ - Bernadette Polley, Sierra Vista**

**WO – Jeremy Kadden**

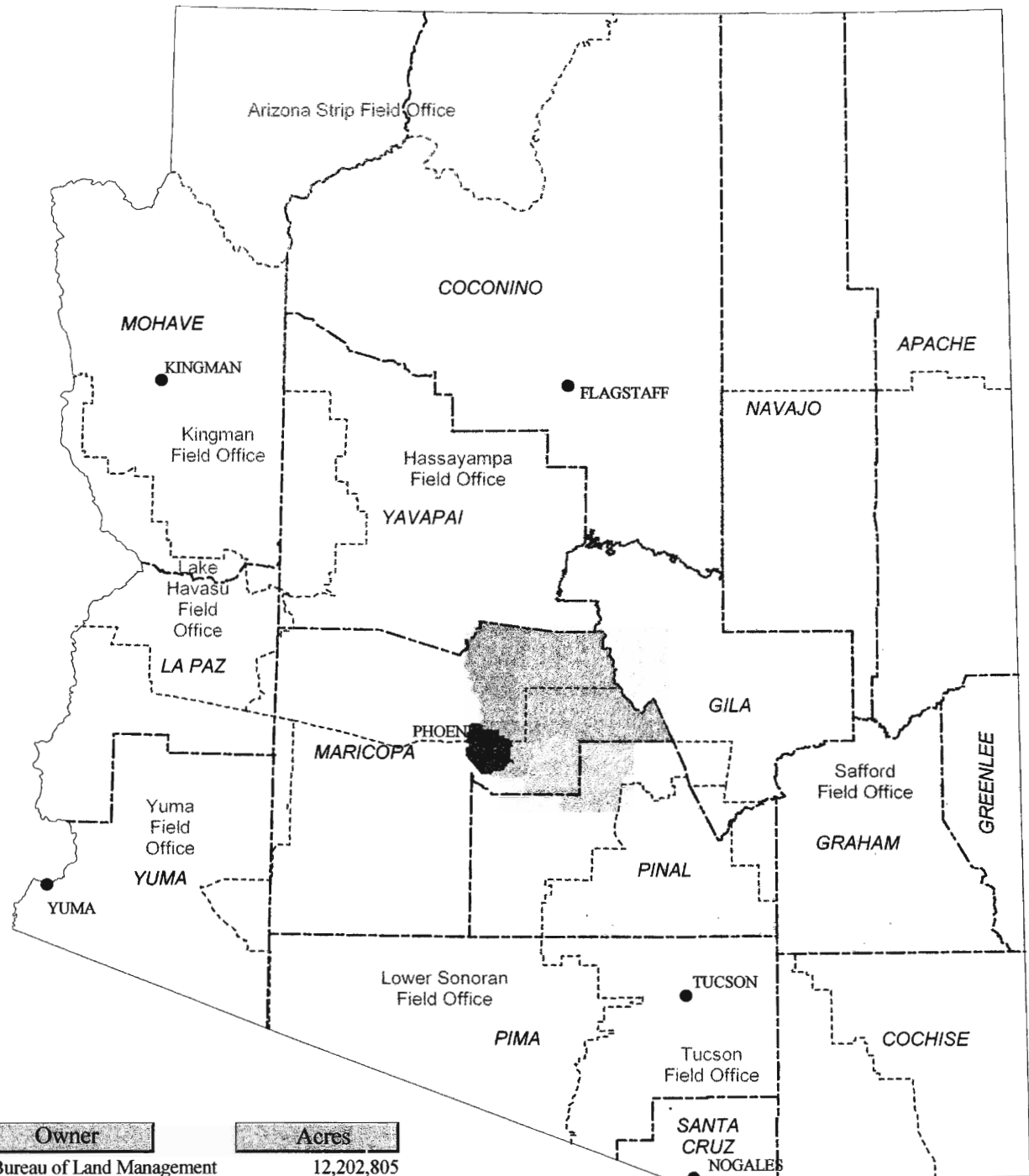
**U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Arizona**

**Senator John McCain**

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# U.S. Senator John McCain



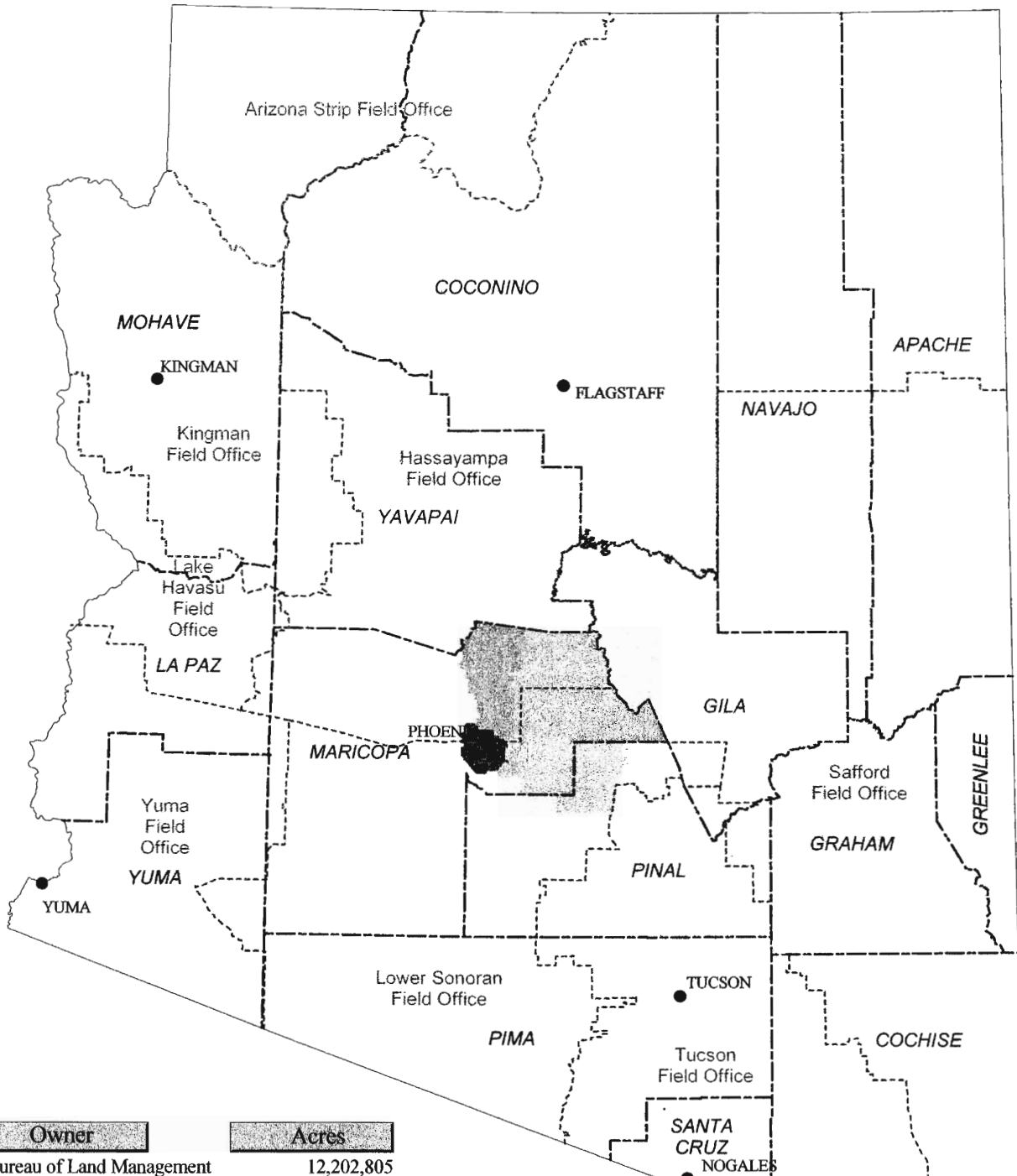
Owner	Acres
Bureau of Land Management	12,202,805
Bureau of Reclamation	115,990
County	14,536
Indian Lands	20,114,627
Local or State Parks	122,389
Military	2,754,188
National Park Service	2,569,568
Private	12,810,440
State	9,296,715
State Wildlife Area	34,327
U.S. Forest Service	11,157,608
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	1,715,643
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>72,908,836</b>

## Congressional Districts

- District 1 Rick Renzi
- District 2 Trent Franks
- District 3 John Shadegg
- District 4 Ed Pastor
- District 5 J. D. Hayworth
- District 6 Jeff Flake
- District 7 Raul Grijalva
- District 8 Jim Kolbe

----- BLM Field Office Boundary  
 ----- County Boundary

# Arizona Congressional Districts



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- BLM Field Office Boundary
- County Boundary





# FACT SHEET

## BLM SPECIAL AREAS • ARIZONA FY 2004

Many of the special values of Arizona public lands and related water resources have been recognized congressionally, administratively, and by other means.

### National Landscape Conservation System

NCA	National Conservation Areas:	Gila Box Riparian (22,000 acres) Las Cienegas (42,000 acres) San Pedro Riparian (58,000 acres)
NM	National Monuments:	Agua Fria (71,100 acres) Grand Canyon-Parashant (1,014,000 acres) Ironwood Forest (129,000 acres) Sonoran Desert (496,337 acres) Vermilion Cliffs (294,000 acres)
NHT	National Historic Trails:	Juan Bautista de Anza (56 miles) Old Spanish Trail (9 miles)
NWA	National Wilderness Areas:	(47 areas totaling 1.4 million acres)
NWA (CA)	NWA acreage managed in California	(7 areas totaling 13,140 acres)
WSA	Wilderness Study Area	(2 areas totaling 63,912 acres)

### Other Special Areas

ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern	(49 areas totaling 632,830 acres)
ACEC (CA)	ACEC acreage managed in California	(1 area totaling 5,280 acres)
CMA	Cooperative Management Area	(Muleshoe Ranch with 26,500 acres)
GIBA	Globally Important Bird Area	(San Pedro RNCA with 54,189 acres)
NBCB	Designated National Back Country Byway	(4 totaling 85 miles)
NNL	National Natural Landmark	(2 totaling 4,398 BLM acres)
NRHP	National Register of Historic Properties	(17 sites of uncalculated acres)
NRHP (CA)	NRHP sites managed in California	(1 site of uncalculated acres)
NRT	National Recreation Trail	(Betty's Kitchen, 0.5 miles)
NSA	National Scenic Area	(Crossman Peak, 26,080 acres)
ONA	Outstanding Natural Area	(Guadalupe Canyon, 2,916 acres)
RCA	Resource Conservation Area	(10 totaling 823,475 acres)
RNA	Research Natural Area	(9 totaling 14,056 acres)
WSR (S)	River Areas found Suitable for inclusion Into the Nat'l Wild and Scenic River System	(14 river areas totaling 256 miles)



## Bureau of Land Management • Arizona

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**March 2006**

### **Profile**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages 12.2 million surface acres of public lands in Arizona. BLM lands are scattered throughout the state, encompassing a wide array of environments ranging from desert grasslands and marshes to Joshua tree forests and stands of ponderosa pine. From low deserts to high mountain ranges, the BLM in Arizona manages a diversity of lands and programs. It is this diversity that draws more than 800 wildlife species to inhabit BLM Arizona's lands. Likewise, more than 16.5 million people visit BLM managed lands each year to enjoy these public lands.

BLM Arizona is privileged to manage five majestic national monuments: Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Ironwood Forest, Sonoran Desert, and Agua Fria; and three national conservation areas, the San Pedro Riparian, Gila Box Riparian, and Las Cienegas. These areas offer a diversity of natural and cultural resources that the BLM conserves and enhances for the enjoyment of future generations. The San Pedro and Gila Box are BLM's only two congressionally designated Riparian National Conservation Areas. BLM also oversees 47 wilderness areas, and two national historic trails, each protected for its history and natural beauty.

Our nation's natural resources play a vital role toward supporting many local communities and global economies. BLM Arizona oversees 36 million acres of subsurface mineral estate, where oil, gas, coal, copper, silver, and sand and gravel are extracted for manufactured products we use every day. Not all 36 million subsurface mineral estate lies under BLM managed lands. Currently, 17.5 million acres reside under BLM lands, 15.5 million acres under other federal land ownership, and the remaining 3 million acres under private and state trust lands with some level of BLM involvement. Arizona contributes more than 60 percent of the nation's copper, and much of it is mined from BLM public lands. Ranchers across the state utilize BLM lands to graze their livestock. Additionally, the BLM has trust responsibility for mineral operations for 20.7 million acres of tribal lands.

Lands under BLM Arizona's management can provide important and continuing contributions to America's energy needs. Arizona has high potential for alternative energy such as wind and solar power. Arizona is also critical to the delivery of energy. BLM Arizona issues rights-of-ways to authorize power transmission lines, roads, pipelines, and communication towers that provide energy and network our country together.

The BLM has many collaborative partnerships throughout the state, including the Arizona Resource Advisory Council (RAC). A broad base of Arizona citizens, the RAC provides advice to BLM on all of its resource management programs.

BLM Arizona places a high priority on customer service, and has established several one stop shopping opportunities for the public. The BLM Information Center is considered by many to be among the most knowledgeable resource for outdoor recreation and tourism information. Additionally, the BLM Arizona Public Room provides mineral records information to the public.

It is the mission of the BLM to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Arizona State Office in downtown Phoenix employs 135 employees who are working to carry out this mission.

**Contact**

Elaine Y Zielinski, State Director  
One North Central Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85004  
[www.blm.gov/az/](http://www.blm.gov/az/)

# Bureau of Land Management



## BLM Arizona Strip District Office

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March 2006

### Profile

The BLM Arizona Strip District Office (ASDO) manages 2.8 million acres in northwestern Arizona, which includes the newly designated Grand Canyon-Parashant and Vermilion Cliffs National Monuments. The Grand Canyon-Parashant is jointly managed with the National Park Service. The BLM public land on the Arizona Strip is among the most remote and rugged in the lower 48 states. ASDO manages eight wilderness areas, including the nationally known Paria Canyon/Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness Area. The Vermilion Cliffs National Monument holds the only current release site for California Condors in Arizona. The Mount Trumbull Ponderosa Pine Ecosystem Restoration Project, which is conducted in cooperation with Northern Arizona University and the Arizona Game and Fish Department, is one of the largest forest restoration projects in the country, and the site of numerous restoration studies. The District Office works closely with its cooperating association, the Arizona Strip Interpretive Association (ASIA). ASIA operates the Interagency Information Center and bookstore, which is located within the district office. The Grand Canyon isolates the Arizona Strip from the rest of Arizona, and as a result, the strip is tied culturally, historically and ecologically with southern Utah. ASDO manages public lands located in northern Mohave and Coconino counties. It is based in St. George, Utah.

### Arizona Delegation

Congressman Rick Renzi, District 1  
Congressman Trent Franks, District 2

### Utah Delegation

Congressman Jim Matheson, District 2  
Senator Orrin Hatch  
Senator Robert Bennett

### Contact

Scott Florence  
Arizona Strip District Office Manager  
345 East Riverside Drive  
St. George, UT 84790-6714  
Phone: 435-688-3301  
[www.blm.gov/az/](http://www.blm.gov/az/)

Becky Hammond  
Arizona Strip Field Office Manager  
345 East Riverside Drive  
St. George, UT 84790-6714  
Ph: 435-688-3200



## **Bureau of Land Management – Arizona**

### **Safford Field Office**

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**March 2006**

#### **Profile**

The BLM Safford Field Office (SFO) includes nearly 1.4 million acres in six eastern Arizona counties: Graham, Greenlee, Cochise, Navajo, Apache, and Pinal. The SFO manages another 118,000 acres of rangelands in New Mexico in cooperation with the Las Cruces Field Office. Coordination regarding lands bordering New Mexico and Sonora, Mexico, result in interstate and international communications. Eight units within the National Landscape Conservation System include the Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area, six wilderness areas including the world-renowned Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness, and one wilderness study area. The Field Office manages four campgrounds and numerous recreation sites including the Black Hills Back Country Byway, Hot Well Dunes, Safford-Morenci Historic Trail, and Bonita Creek Watchable Wildlife Viewing Area. Recreation activities include river floating, hunting, fishing, birding, camping, hiking, picnicking, photography, and off-highway vehicle use. Partnerships with local Gateway Communities enhance tourism opportunities on the public lands.

The Field Office manages 11 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern and more than 30 miles of stream segments under consideration for Wild and Scenic River designation. Riparian ecosystems are numerous and thriving, providing habitat for 10 native fish species. SFO lands are home to 11 threatened, endangered, or candidate fish, wildlife, and plant species.

The SFO oversees more than 4,000 active mining claims, nearly 800 rights-of-way, and 300 livestock grazing allotments. The Gila District's regional Air Operations Center, located in Safford, serves as the National Interagency Fire Center's site for training single-engine air tanker pilots. The District is part of the Southeast Arizona fire management zone. There are 43 employees within the SFO and another 14 Gila District personnel working within the office, plus contractors and seasonal fire personnel.

#### **Arizona Delegation**

Congressman Rick Renzi, District 1  
Congressman Jim Kolbe, District 8

#### **Contact**

Bill Brandau, Field Manager  
Safford Field Office  
711 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
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(928) 348-4400  
[www.blm.gov/az/](http://www.blm.gov/az/)

*\*Note: All data has been updated March 2006.*



## **Petrified Forest National Park Expansion**

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**March 2006**

### **ISSUES:**

#### Background - Legislative Actions

The Petrified Forest National Park developed a General Management Plan (GMP) in the 1990's calling for a proposed boundary expansion of approximately 98,000 acres. Legislative efforts were initiated in 2001 to expand the park, generally based on the GMP prepared by the National Park Service (NPS). The Petrified Forest National Park Expansion Act of 2004, Public Law 108-430, was approved on December 4, 2004. This law increased the size of the park from 93,533 acres to approximately 218,533 acres. The 125,000 acres of additional lands is larger than the area originally identified in the GMP based on input from the private landowners and the Arizona State Land Department. The ownership of the lands in the expansion area is a mixture of private, state, and BLM lands.

In FY 2001, \$2 million was appropriated as an LWCF line-item "add-on" for the BLM to acquire lands within the proposed expansion area. The BLM received the appropriation instead of the NPS because the lands were then outside of the park boundary (NPS cannot conduct realty actions outside its park boundaries) at this time. Therefore, responsibility for processing land acquisitions fell to the BLM as long as the boundary expansion remained a proposal. The BLM initiated the acquisition (purchase) processing steps by procuring title reports and appraisals for approximately 65,000 acres of private land owned by four major landowners. None of the landowners were willing to sell at the appraised value.

The funding was subsequently reprogrammed in 2003 to a LWCF project in Idaho.

### **SUMMARY:**

Arizona BLM staff met with several interested parties regarding land exchange proposals. Due to appraisal issues, none of the exchange proceeded past the discuss stage.

The BLM is presently working with the NPS to transfer jurisdiction of the public lands within the expansion area to the NPS. Representatives from the BLM and the NPS met on December 9, 2005, to discuss how each agency would be involved in potential acquisitions and the process of transferring jurisdiction from the BLM to the NPS, because the law did not transfer the BLM lands within the expansion boundary. It was decided at the meeting that the BLM will provide assistance to the NPS with the processing of land exchanges with the four major private landowners within the expansion boundary. The NPS is in the process of drafting an Interagency Agreement between the BLM and the NPS to outline the different steps and responsibilities along with target dates for each step. Both agencies are to meet in early April 2006 to finalize the agreement.

### **BLM PERSPECTIVE:**

The Bureau is cooperating with the NPS on acquisition of lands within the park boundary.

### **CONTACT:**

Elaine Zielinski, BLM State Director, (602) 417-9500

## PETRIFIED FOREST UPDATE

A coordination meeting was held with the National Park Service and BLM on December 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Petrified Forest Park expansion issues.

The following action items were agreed upon at the meeting:

Points of contact will be Angela Mogel - BLM Wyoma Hansen NPS

**> Formal documents transferring BLM lands within the Park boundary will be prepared by NPS (Glenna Vigil)**

*Status: Wyoma reports that NPS has decided to seek special legislation to affect the transfer. They are not working on formal documents at this point.*

**> Prepare a formal Interagency Agreement (IA) between BLM and NPS to outline the different steps and responsibilities. (Rick Shireman)**

*Status: In process*

**> Funding issues: NPS is working on obtaining reprogrammed money to assist Petrified Forest National Park with title work. (Glenna Vigil)**

*Status: In progress*

**> Potential exchanges of private land within the Park for BLM lands. BLM to approach Bob Worsley (NZ Ranch) about his interest in a possible exchange. (Bill Civish)**

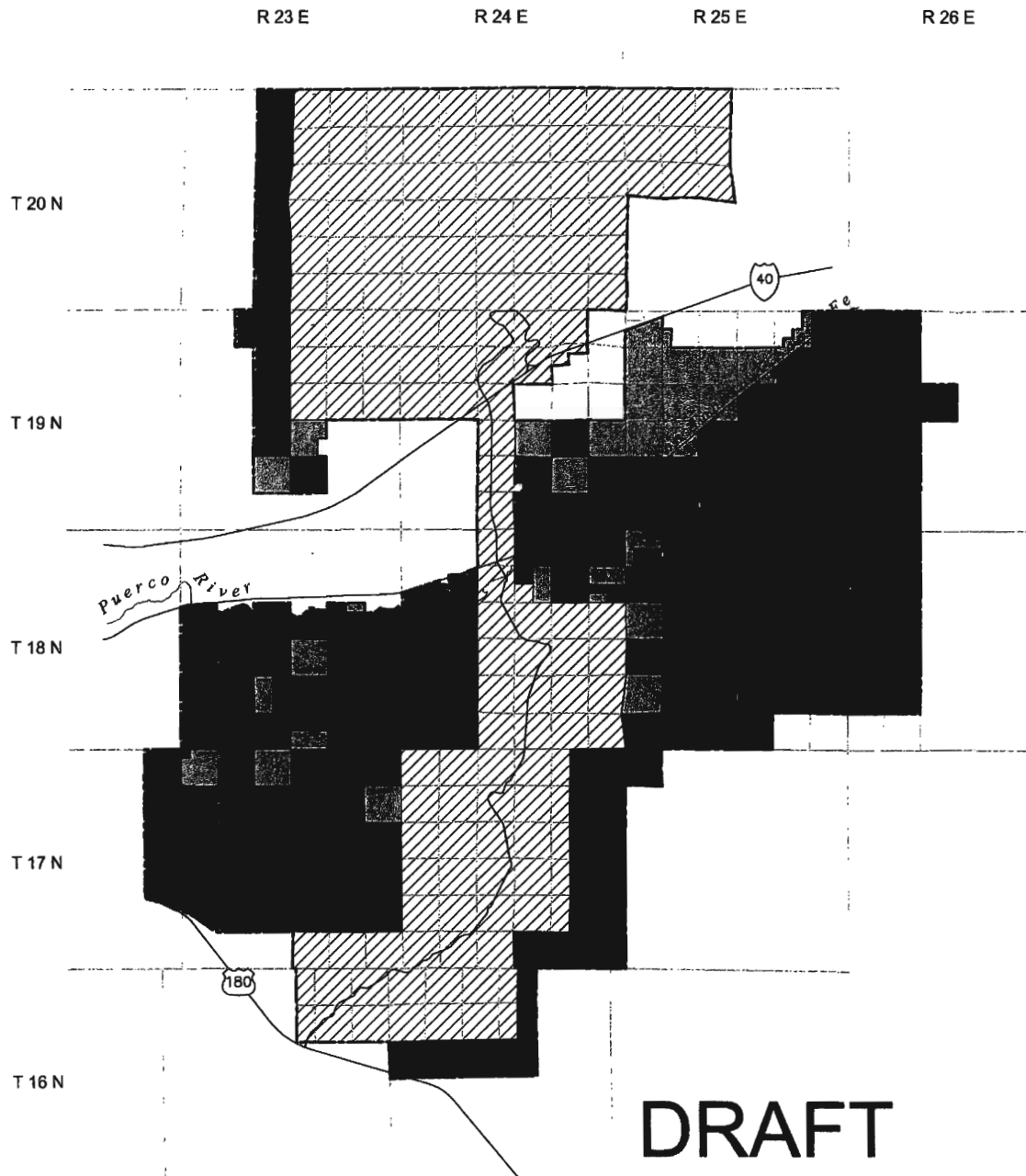
*Status: Bill Civish spoke to Mr. Worsley's agent, Scott Higginson of NZ Legacy, regarding an exchange. Mr. Higginson expressed interest and told Bill he would send him maps outlining their proposal. The maps have not been sent to date. Mr. Higginson called Bill this week and left message for him to call. Stated he would be in Washington this week, but back on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Civish has called and expects a return call later today.*

**> BLM to identify parcels identified for disposal in current planning efforts in the Phoenix area. (Angela Mogel)**




*Status: Maps sent electronically to NPS*

# Petrified Forest National Park

Apache and Navajo Counties, Arizona



## Legend

-  Proposed Boundary
-  Petrified Forest National Park
-  Private Land
-  Bureau of Land Management Land
-  State of Arizona Land

## Title:

Proposed Boundary Adjustment,  
Petrified Forest National Park

Date: January 2005

Map No.: 110/80,045



3 0 3 6 Miles





## **State of Arizona Land Tenure**

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**March 2006**

### **ISSUES:**

From 1995 to 2005, Arizona's population increased by 1.7 million residents, making it the second fastest growing state in the nation. Despite overwhelming evidence that Arizona is a desirable place to live and work, the state's growth has generated a strain on BLM's land resources.

The Arizona BLM is greatly challenged to retain public lands which enhance multiple use management, acquire lands that complement existing values, and to dispose of lands that are no longer needed for federal purposes. During the current rapid growth period, land tenure goals must be accomplished using a balanced and creative array of disposal and acquisition management tools, such as sales, purchases, conveyances, and exchanges.

### **SUMMARY:**

Despite the numerous benefits that are derived from land tenure adjustments, there have been constraints in accomplishing these goals.

Land exchanges have become increasingly difficult and complex. There is increased public scrutiny, due to a public perception that exchange proponents benefit at the expense of the government/public. The rapid growth in Arizona has escalated the volatility associated with the markets influenced by the Tucson, Phoenix, and Las Vegas metro areas. Additionally, it is difficult to ascertain appraised market values in these markets. Ballot initiatives put to the Arizona voters have failed to give constitutional authority to exchange state trust lands, making it impossible to do exchanges with the State. Acquisition of land with valuable conservation resources are increasingly difficult to purchase with Land and Water Conservation funds due to the volatile market. Some potential sellers hold on to their property for higher prices or sell to individuals willing to out bid the government.

### **BLM PERSPECTIVE:**

Constraints have challenged the Arizona BLM to explore and pursue alternative tools and approaches for accomplishing land tenure goals. BLM has begun focusing on other methods, such as the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act of 2000 (Baca Bill), as well as pursuing other types of sale authorities. Also, there are growing prospects associated with partnerships and cooperative efforts to develop and coordinate an effective land tenure strategy and share expertise. Currently Arizona BLM has joint efforts with several federal agencies and three nonprofit conservation groups. These nonprofit conservation groups include the Archaeology Society, The Nature Conservancy, The Trust for Public Land, The Conservation Fund, and The Wilderness Land Trust. Land exchange proposals are viable, but should be meticulously screened to eliminate the appraisal uncertainties; i.e. exchanging only equal character lands in a defined proximity.

Also, Arizona BLM is utilizing other types of proposals such as donations and endangered species compensations to acquire high value resource lands.

Despite existing obstacles and constraints, Arizona BLM will continue to seek the means for managing an effective land tenure strategy.

### **CONTACT:**

Elaine Zielinski, BLM State Director, (602) 417-9500



## **Arizona Land Use Planning Update**

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**March 2006**

### **Agua Fria National Monument and Bradshaw - Harquahala Land Use Plans**

- The Draft RMP/Draft EIS was released for a 90-day public comment period starting January 6 to April 5, 2006. Public meetings were held in January and February 2006.
- **The Final RMP/EIS is scheduled to be published by September 30, 2006.**

### **Sonoran Desert National Monument and Phoenix South Land Use Plans**

- **The RMP/EIS planning effort is nearing completion of the preferred alternative development and impact analysis stages. The Draft RMP/Draft EIS should be reviewed by the State Office resources staff in January 2006. The NOA for the Draft RMP/Draft EIS should be published in May 2006.**

### **Lake Havasu Land Use Plan**

- The Draft RMP/Draft EIS was released for a 90-day public comment period starting September 30 to December 30, 2005. Public meetings were held in October 2005.
- **The Final RMP/EIS is scheduled to be published by August 31, 2006.**

### **Grand Canyon Parashant National Monument/Vermilion Cliffs National Monument/Arizona Strip Field Office Land Use Plans**

- National Park Service and BLM staffs are jointly completing the planning effort, with assistance from Lake Mead National Recreation Area staff.
- The Draft RMP/Draft EIS was released for a 90-day public comment period starting November 25, 2005 to March 17, 2006. Public meetings were held in January 2006.
- **The Final RMP/EIS is scheduled to be published by September 30, 2006.**

### **Ironwood Forest National Monument Land Use Plan**

- **State Office review of preliminary alternatives began in February 2005. The Draft RMP/Draft EIS should be reviewed by the State Office resources staff in the winter of 2005/2006. The NOA for the Draft RMP/Draft EIS should be published June 2006.**

### **Las Cienegas National Conservation Area Land Use Plan**

- The BLM completed the RMP with the help of the Sonoita Valley Planning Partnership (SVPP), through a five-year collaborative planning effort. The SVPP is a voluntary association of federal, state, and local agencies, organizations, and private citizens who share a common interest in the resources and management of the public lands within the Sonoita Valley, including the upper watershed of Cienega Creek.
- The Approved RMP and Record of Decision were signed on July 25, 2003 by the Arizona State Director. An Implementation Strategy is being developed with the assistance of the Sonoita Valley Planning Partnership (SVPP) and others.

### **Arizona LUP Amendment for Fire, Fuels and Air Quality Management**

- The notice of availability (NOA) for the Proposed LUP Amendment, Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment was published April 9, 2004. Release of the NOA began the 30-day protest period on the Proposed LUP Amendment, which closed on May 10, 2004. No letters of protest were received.
- Arizona BLM received the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Biological Opinion on September 3, 2004. The Statewide LUP Amendment and Decision Record were approved by the State Director on September 28, 2004.

### **Yuma Land Use Plan**

- State Office review of preliminary alternatives began in May 2005. Five (5) public meetings were held during the week of July 25-29, 2005, on the preliminary alternatives. These meetings were held in Yuma, Quartzsite, Tucson, and Wellton, AZ, and Blythe, CA. Development of the preferred alternatives began during the week of August 22-26, 2005.
- **The Draft RMP/Draft EIS is scheduled to be reviewed by the State Office resources staff in February 2006. The NOA for the Draft RMP/Draft EIS should be published in May 2006.**

### **San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area and Tucson Field Office Land Use Plans**

- The San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area (San Pedro RNCA) is located within the Tucson Field Office. Public lands in the San Pedro RNCA are managed under the Safford RMP (1992, 1994) and San Pedro RNCA Management Plan (1989).
- Fiscal year 2004 is the initial year of funding for this planning effort. The San Pedro RNCA RMP will be combined with the Tucson Field Office RMP (Tucson RMP) under one planning effort. The Tucson RMP will address all remaining BLM administered lands not covered by the Las Cienegas NCA, Ironwood Forest National Monument, and San Pedro RNCA RMPs.
- **The Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare both land use plans was published in the Federal Register on September 2, 2005. The scoping report should be approved in late spring/early summer of 2006.**

## **Grand Canyon Parashant National Monument/Vermilion Cliffs National Monument/Arizona Strip Field Office Land Use Plans**

- The scoping period was conducted April 24, 2002 through July 31, 2002. Ten (10) public scoping open houses were held from May 28 through June 13, 2002.
- On July 22, 2002, a public scoping open house was held at Peach Springs, Arizona, at the request of the Hualapai Tribe. BLM also met with the tribal councils of all tribes in the Grand Canyon Region before the planning process began.
- Several community-based partnership and stewardship workshops were held in Arizona Strip communities by the BLM National Training Center and James Kent Associates to establish local collaboration.
- The Scoping Report was approved September 24, 2002.
- Over 200 Cooperating Agency invitation letters were sent out statewide to local, county, state and federal government entities. Cooperating Agency memorandums of understanding (MOUs) are being developed with the Hopi Tribe, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Flagstaff, Arizona, Arizona State Game and Fish, State Land Department, ADOT, FHWA, and Mohave County. Coconino County is also interested, but has not responded formally.
- Access and transportation are the major issues for the planning effort, particularly OHV use. Other issues include wilderness and protection of the resources.
- There is overwhelming public response to leave the area as it is today - remote and isolated, with no services and diverse recreational experiences away from civilization.
- The planning effort is partially contracted. National Park Service and BLM staffs are primarily completing it, with assistance from Lake Mead National Recreation Area staff.
- The Draft RMP/Draft EIS was released for a 90-day public comment period starting November 25, 2005 to March 17, 2006. Public meetings were held in January 2006.
- **The Final RMP/EIS is scheduled to be published by September 30, 2006.**

## **Ironwood Forest National Monument Land Use Plan**

- The Notice of Intent to prepare a RMP for the Monument was published in the Federal Register on April 24, 2002. Nine (9) public scoping meetings were held in communities surrounding the Monument between July 10 and July 30, 2002.
- Over 10,000 comment letters were received, and the scoping report was developed. The scoping report was approved February 12, 2004.
- A contract to help the Tucson Field Office complete this planning effort was awarded to URS Corporation in July 2003.

- Over 200 Cooperating Agency invitation letters were sent out statewide to local, county, state, tribal and federal government entities in September 2002. Another round of 90 invitation letters was sent out in December 2003. Pima and Pinal Counties are considering formal cooperating agency status. Many of the contacted entities expressed interest in remaining engaged in the planning process, but are not prepared to enter into a formal cooperating agency agreement at this time.
- Major issues include: OHV use, grazing, target shooting, undocumented immigrants, transportation, user conflicts, and public contact and visitor expectations.
- **State Office review of preliminary alternatives began in February 2005. The Draft RMP/Draft EIS should be reviewed by the State Office resources staff in the winter of 2005/2006. The NOA for the Draft RMP/Draft EIS should be published June 2006.**

#### **Las Cienegas National Conservation Area Land Use Plan**

- The BLM completed the RMP with the help of the Sonoita Valley Planning Partnership (SVPP), through a five-year collaborative planning effort. The SVPP is a voluntary association of federal, state, and local agencies, organizations, and private citizens who share a common interest in the resources and management of the public lands within the Sonoita Valley, including the upper watershed of Cienega Creek.
- The Approved RMP and Record of Decision were signed on July 25, 2003 by the Arizona State Director. An Implementation Strategy is being developed with the assistance of the Sonoita Valley Planning Partnership (SVPP) and others.

#### **Arizona LUP Amendment for Fire, Fuels and Air Quality Management**

- The National Fire Policy needs to be incorporated into all of Arizona BLM's Land Use Plans (LUPs) by the 2004 fire season. The most recent comprehensive land use plan evaluations in Arizona indicated a need to update the fire decisions in every LUP. The proposal to amend the LUPs has been analyzed through an Environmental Assessment (EA). The proposal incorporates adaptive fire management into the LUPs and provides a consistent approach to incorporating the National Fire Policy.
- A contract for the preparation of the Arizona Statewide LUP Amendment was awarded to the Dynamac Corporation in September 2002.
- The Notice of Intent (NOI) to amend all of Arizona's land use plans was published in the Federal Register on January 27, 2003. The public comment period on the NOI ended March 14, 2003. Two planning bulletins were mailed to over 4,000 individuals and public groups. Over 70 responses to the letters or planning bulletin worksheets were received. Overwhelming amounts of the responses support the amendment effort (90%). Concerns focused mostly on reduction of rangeland forage for cattle and logging large diameter trees.
- Letters extending cooperating agency status were sent to federal, state, county governments and Tribal contacts. The Prescott and Tonto National Forests, and the Grand Canyon National Park specifically asked to be kept informed of our efforts. Most of our Tribal partners have responded favorably and would like to be kept informed of the effort as well.

- The preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and supporting EA was released to the public on September 26, 2003, and was available for public review and comment until Monday, October 27, 2003. Seven (7) comment letters were received.
- The notice of availability (NOA) for the Proposed LUP Amendment, Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment was published April 9, 2004. Release of the NOA began the 30-day protest period on the Proposed LUP Amendment, which closed on May 10, 2004. No letters of protest were received.
- Arizona BLM received the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Biological Opinion on September 3, 2004. The Statewide LUP Amendment and Decision Record was approved by the State Director on September 28, 2004.

### **Yuma Land Use Plan**

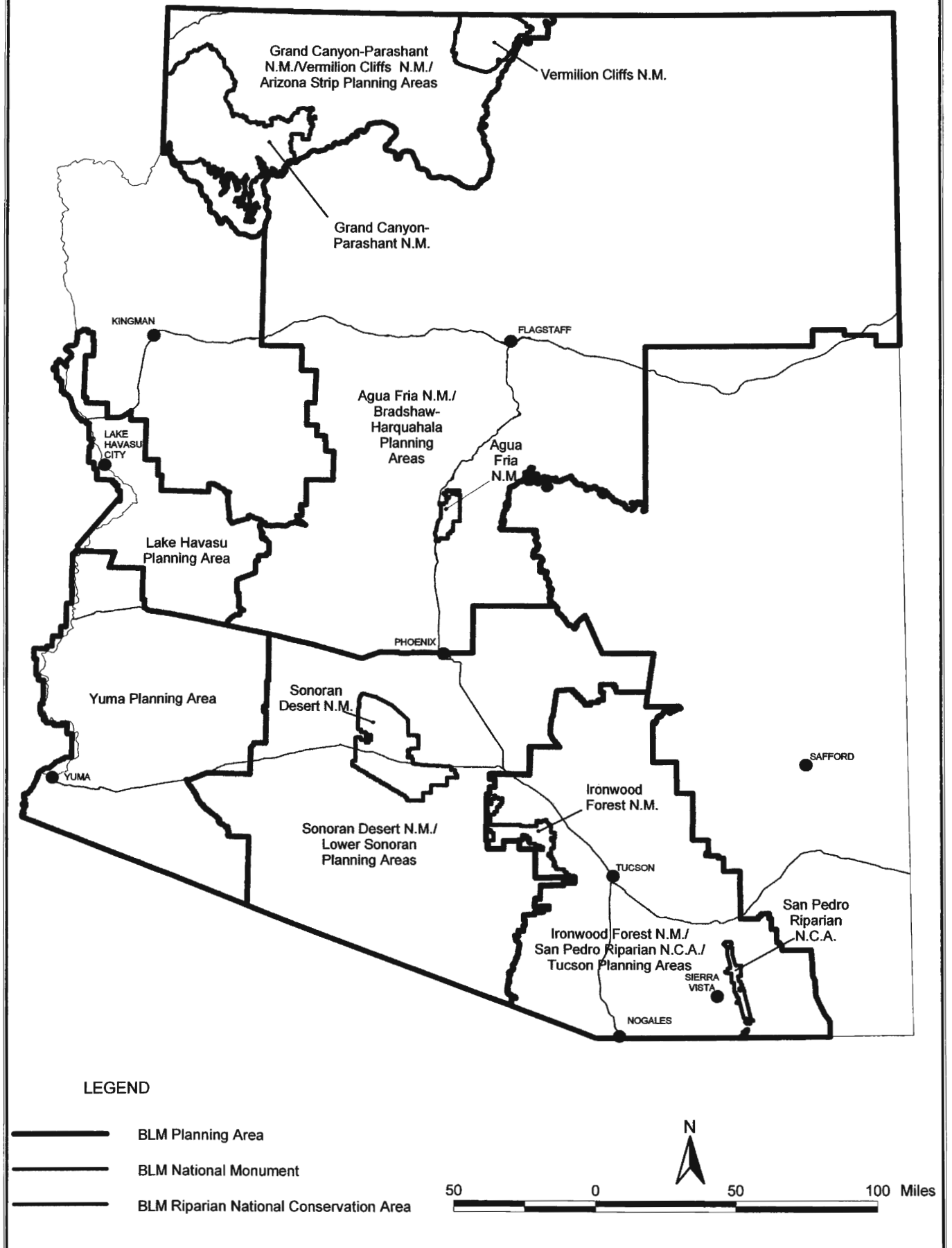
- The Yuma Field Office manages public lands under three (3) land use plans and eight (8) LUP amendments. The comprehensive land use plan evaluation was completed in December 2000.
- Fiscal year 2004 was the initial year of funding for the Yuma RMP revision. The Preparation Plan, which guides the development of the RMP, was approved on April 30, 2004.
- The Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare the land use plan was published in the Federal Register on March 30, 2004. Four (4) public scoping meetings were held during the first week of June 2004. These meetings were held in Yuma, Quartzsite, and Wellton, AZ and Blythe, CA. The scoping report was approved on September 28, 2004.
- This planning effort is being contracted, and the contract was awarded to Tetra Tech, Inc. in August 2004.
- State Office review of preliminary alternatives began in May 2005. Five (5) public meetings were held during the week of July 25-29, 2005, on the preliminary alternatives. These meetings were held in Yuma, Quartzsite, Tucson, and Wellton, AZ, and Blythe, CA. Development of the preferred alternatives began during the week of August 22-26, 2005.
- **The Draft RMP/Draft EIS is scheduled to be reviewed by the State Office resources staff in February 2006. The NOA for the Draft RMP/Draft EIS should be published in May 2006.**

### **San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area and Tucson Field Office Land Use Plans**

- The San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area (San Pedro RNCA) is located within the Tucson Field Office. Public lands in the San Pedro RNCA are managed under the Safford RMP (1992, 1994) and San Pedro RNCA Management Plan (1989).
- Fiscal year 2004 is the initial year of funding for this planning effort. The San Pedro RNCA RMP will be combined with the Tucson Field Office RMP (Tucson RMP) under one planning effort. The Tucson RMP will address all remaining BLM administered lands not covered by the Las Cienegas NCA, Ironwood Forest National Monument, and San Pedro RNCA RMPs.

- **The Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare both land use plans was published in the Federal Register on September 2, 2005. The scoping report should be approved in late spring/early summer of 2006.**

# Arizona BLM Planning Areas 2006







## 2006 FIRE SEASON OUTLOOK FOR ARIZONA

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March 2006

### ISSUES:

Arizona has experienced an extremely dry season since the mild monsoon moisture experienced in June and July of 2005. Winter moisture has been negligible for all but the far Northwestern portion of the State. Unlike the fire season of 2005, Arizona can expect higher than average fire occurrence in the Sonoran and upland grassland ecosystems, the intermediate chaparral and the timber ecosystems. The drier than normal fall and winter and the absence of appreciable snowpack, coupled with the residual fine fuels from the previous season sets the stage for a fire season not unlike 1995 and 1996. Currently chaparral live fuel moistures are in the 60-70% much lower than last year and as low as they were in June of 2002 when the Rodeo-Chediski Fire occurred. Fuel moistures in dead and down timber at higher elevations are in the single digits, a condition expected in mid-summer not mid-winter. Any moisture received at this point, unless significant, will only delay the onset of fire season not abate it.

Additionally, since the high country is dry as well we cannot expect the same support from our Forest Service partners as we received within the state last year when fire occurrence in the timber was very low. To adjust for this we are coordinating with the National Office of Fire and Aviation on the following:

Severity Funding for February and March was requested and approved to activate firefighters early in order to complete preseason training by early March.

Severity Funding requested and approved to provide additional prevention and outreach resources to emphasize the severity of the upcoming season.

Coordinating with Northern states for early activation of critical resources to include engines, hotshot crews and aviation resources by Mid-March to Early April.

Additional overhead to support fire managers statewide for initial attack and large fire management.

Activation of the aviation fleet under the new management concept to have assets staffed in Arizona by Mid-April depending on the persistence of the dry and warmer than normal weather. Currently Arizona is scheduled to have two helicopters starting May 1st and May 25th and one Single Engine Airtanker (SEAT) starting May 15th. In discussion with the National Office we will be able to bring these resources on earlier and augment the numbers with the fleet available Nationally.

The National office is attentive to the fire potential in the Southwest and supportive of the efforts we are undertaking. Within the State we are coordinating with our partners and preparing with the Field to prepare for an early and severe fire season through the following efforts:

The distribution and training on the King radios was completed in February.

The field has been reminded to track fuels moistures and report them weekly to aid in preseason severity analysis and fire potential.

A severity package will be submitted monthly to the National Office for early activation of firefighters and prevention resources. Prevention will focus on the areas at risk, including communities within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI).

Close interagency coordination is underway for the early implementation of fire restrictions and closures where necessary.

Coordinating with State and Federal Partners on the distribution of the Interior Rural Fire Assistance Grants. We are expecting to receive between 600 and 700 thousand dollars and grant submissions will be reviewed for prioritization and award. This will be based on the amount of funding received, priorities will be training, firefighter equipment and radios. In addition we have submitted a request for funding out of the Ready Reserve Program, the submission amounted to approximately \$522,000 to cover the training of 710 Firefighters in Arizona and outfitting 336 (of the 710) with firefighting equipment.

Participating within the Southwest Fire Prevention and Fire Information Groups for the development of a Proclamation for the Governors of Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas to declare a Wildfire Awareness Week this spring.

Hazardous fuels abatement projects will continue to be implemented where possible to include prescribed burning with continued close monitoring of prescription parameters. As spring draws near some projects may have to be cancelled until the severity of the fire situation abates. These hazardous fuels projects are an important part of mitigating the severity of large fire occurrence.

In addition to these efforts, Arizona has coordinated with the National Office to ensure that firefighters are staffed at the same levels as 2005 under normal year funding to be augmented with severity resources as the season develops. Arizona has already begun preplanning for the activation of aviation resources under the new concept. On the issue of the Aviation Strategy, a presentation was made in DC to the Wildland Fire Leadership Counsel (WFLC) on both the strategy and the Heavy Airtanker situation. Lori Faeth, from the Governors Office was present at the briefing and the WFLC was accepting of the strategy. A letter will go out to the Governor's, and a copy will be sent to the states as soon as it is signed to receive it simultaneously with the Governor.

Overall, the preplanning we are undergoing should result in adequate preparedness for the 2006 fire season for the BLM and their interagency partners, however certain hurdles still exist that may effect our ability to prepare and we are working with the National Office of Fire and Aviation to address them.

The hurdles are in the form of increased requirements for the hiring of seasonal firefighters; background checks and security clearances that are being implemented could cause significant delays in hiring, these same requirements are being extended to emergency hires normally activated on short time frames with severity funding. These requirements are being implemented simultaneously with the early onset of our fire season in Arizona. The full implications and the potential extent of delays are unknown but are expected to be weeks or months. We are working now with the National Office and Human Resources to expedite the activation of firefighters in light of these new requirements.

## **SUMMARY:**

Arizona is expecting an early, protracted and severe fire season state-wide. Preseason preparation is underway with the expectation of the earliest possible activation of resources. The Southwest region has the full attention and assistance of the National Office in preparation for the 2006 fire season. Funding levels have been maintained for ground firefighting resources, and the National aviation strategy will allow us to activate aviation resources as needed. New procedures for hiring temporary firefighters, however has the potential to cause delays in preparation efforts and we are working actively with the National Office to address this issue.

**BLM PERSPECTIVE:**

The State Office Fire Staff in coordination with the Field Offices will actively monitor the fire situation as the season evolves and continue to bolster preparedness efforts in the face of the coming season with the full support of the National Office.

**CONTACT:**

Elaine Zielinski, BLM State Director, (602) 417-9500

**Valid:** Jan. - Mar. 2006  
**Issue Date:** January 11, 2006  
**Complete Update:** April 5, 2006

## 2006 PRELIMINARY FIRE SEASON OUTLOOK

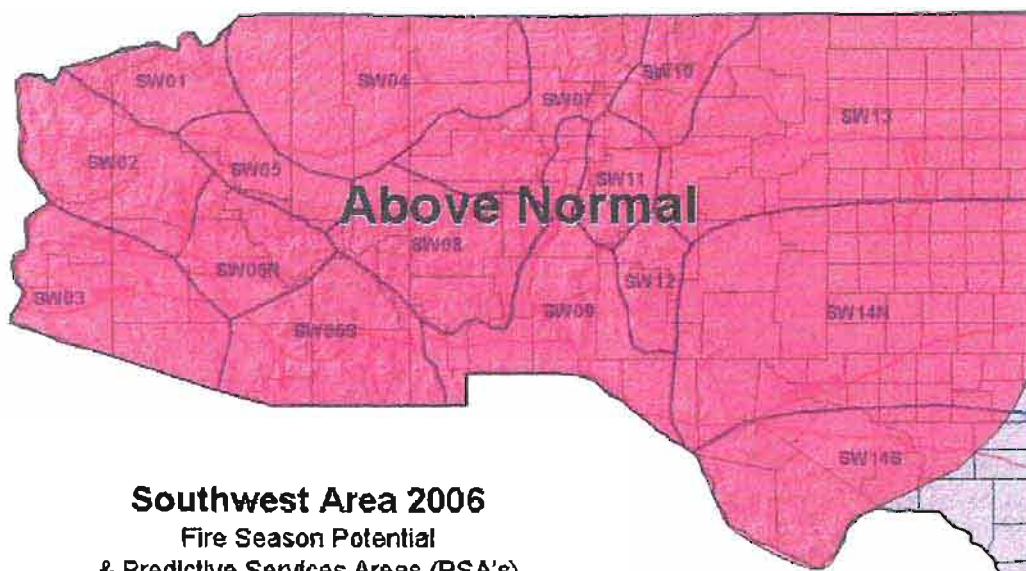
### PRODUCT INTENT

The intent of the **preliminary** fire season outlook is to provide a scientifically based early look at factors affecting the potential severity of the primary Southwest Area fire season, normally April through July. This involves a combination of quantitative and subjective analytical and forecast methodologies.

### SUMMARY

**The overall 2006 Southwest Area fire season will be above normal in terms of the Geographic Area's impact on national firefighting resources. This will be characterized by an early and active season in all fuel regimes across most of the Geographic Area, with above normal potential for initial attack and large fire development. The potential for early season timber fires will be particularly high.**

- Abundance of carryover fine herbaceous fuels from the wet 2004-2005 winter.
- Significant precipitation deficit since the weak 2005 monsoon, and nearly non-existent mountain snowpack.
- Forecast of continued warm and dry conditions through May.
- Lower elevation, lighter fuel types susceptible to fire through the winter.
- Mid to high elevation, heavier fuel types to support significant fire activity by April.
- Moisture to increase east of the continental divide by late May/early June.
- Monsoon expected to begin early or on time and provide ample rainfall.
- Fire activity to remain significant through June into July, mainly west of the continental divide.



**Southwest Area 2006**  
 Fire Season Potential  
 & Predictive Services Areas (PSA's)

## POSSIBLE PREPAREDNESS EFFORTS

The following are considerations for fire management interests in light of the developing nature of the upcoming fire season:

- Bring on seasonal resources early and complete training and preparedness/safety reviews as early as possible.
- Pre-position additional aviation and initial attack resources as early as March.
- Ensure firefighting personnel are aware that significant fire activity will continue in the fine fuels as in 2005, but that fires will have the potential to advance much more readily into the brush and timber fuels.
- Ensure NFDRS pocketcards are updated and certified.
- Ensure all NFDRS stations are entering timely and accurate daily observations and otherwise functioning to NFDRS standards by February 1<sup>st</sup>.

## FIRE ACTIVITY ASSESSMENT

- In terms of current and forecast conditions, the year 1996 is the most similar to what we expect in 2006.
- The 1995/1996 winter precipitation pattern was similar to what's occurring now, and the previous year was fairly wet.
- 1996 had a dry and windy spring, with significant large fire activity in timber fuel types in April and May. (Dome - 16,774 acres, Santa Fe NF; Hondo - 7,651 acres, Carson NF)
- Over 5800 fires and 350,000 acres were burned during 1996, the bulk of which occurred prior to July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The first three months (January-March) of 1996 had several large fires, ranging in size from 250 to 10,000 acres.
- 1996 had 21 large fires which required one or more Type I or II Incident Management Team be assigned, compared to the average of 14.
- The amount of carryover fine herbaceous fuels was less in 1996 than it is now in early 2006.
- **2006 is shaping up to be a very active, early and intense fire season on the scope of what occurred from January through June, 1996.**

## 1996 FIRE SEASON STATISTICS (January – June\*)

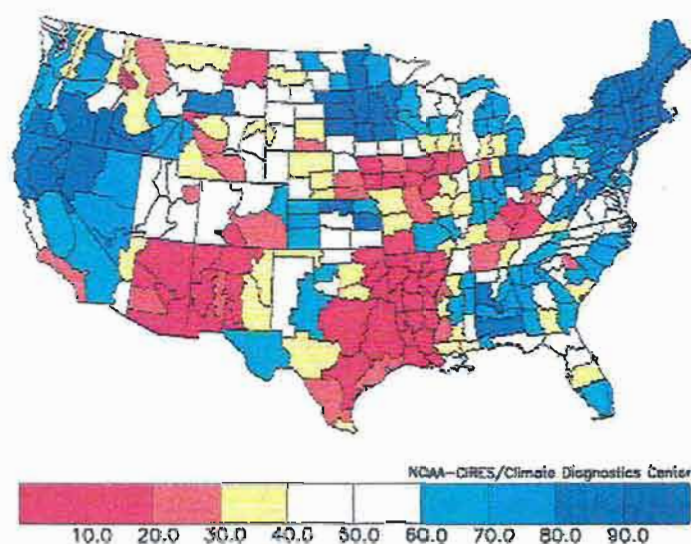
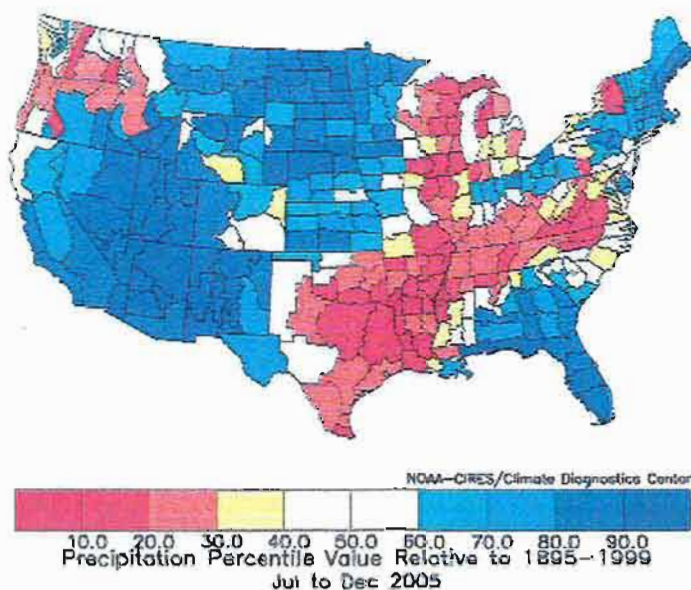
Southwest Area	Total Fires	Total Acres
Total Fires & Acres	3,000	242,371
Average ('90-'05)	2,289	206,822
Median ('90-'05)	2,316	127,154
% of Average	131%	117%
% of Median	130%	191%

\* Note: 1996 fire statistics were significantly impacted by the remnants of a tropical storm which provided season ending rainfall across much of New Mexico and west Texas in mid June. Only fire activity from January through June is provided for comparison due to the unlikelihood of such an event occurring again in 2006.

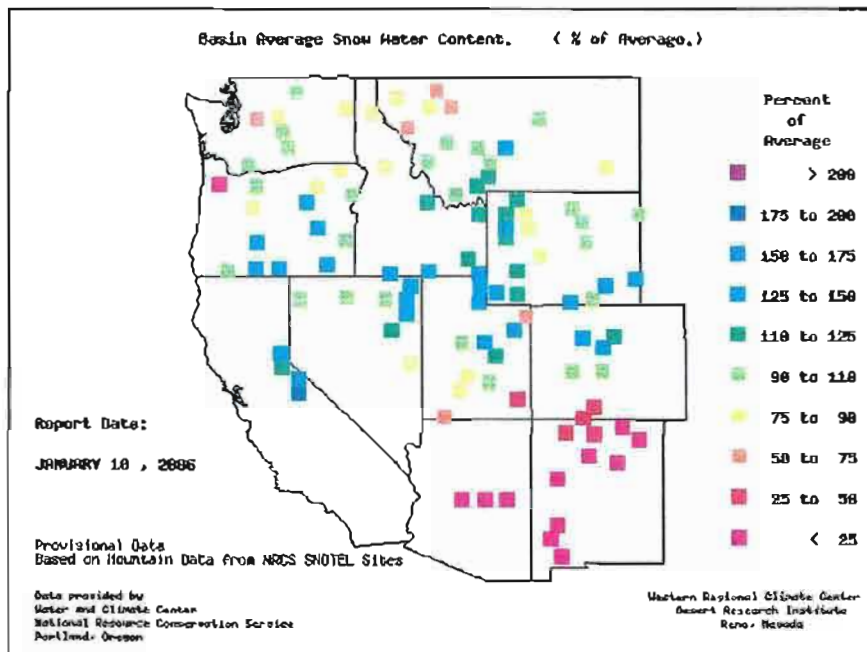
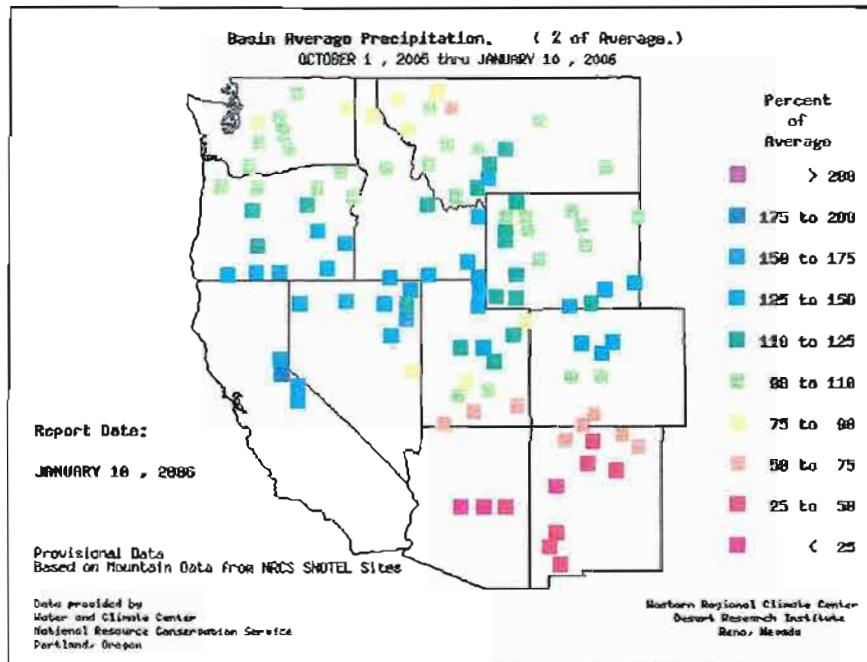


## SUPPORTING INPUT DATA

Precipitation Percentile Value Relative to 1895–1999  
Jan to Jun 2005

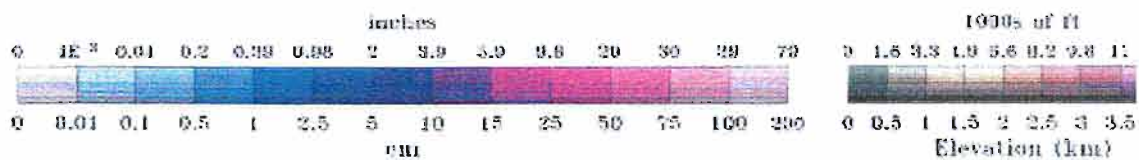
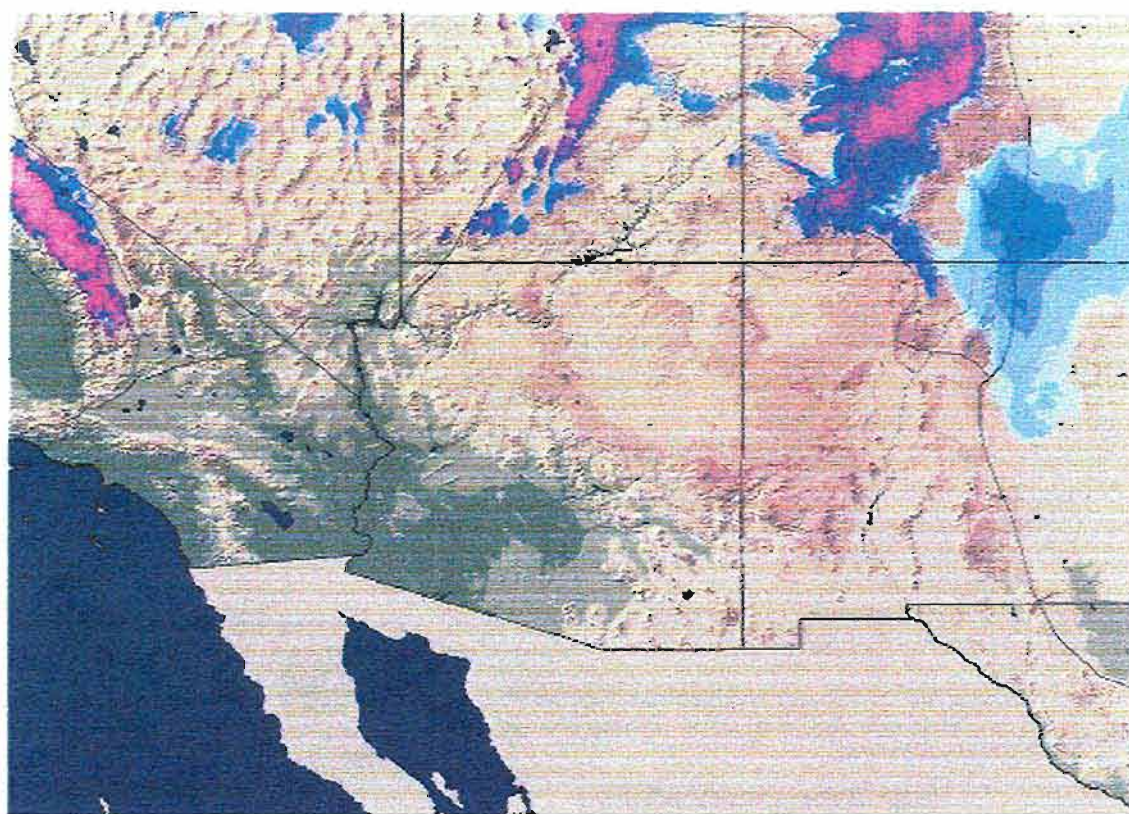


**2005 precipitation as a percentile distribution relative to that received for the same time frame during the years 1895–2000.** (A value of 20 indicates that only 20% of years from 1895–2000 were drier for the same months indicated). The two graphics show the relatively "above normal" moisture of Jan. - Jun., followed by a rather dry summer through early winter period. The graphs depict the present situation in the region. Various grass and brush species experienced active growth during the first half of 2005. Now, due to the lack of moisture in the past six months through the present, timber and higher elevation fuels are drying and will combine with abundant finer fuel types for an active 2006 fire season.



**Basin average precipitation for the water year (starting Oct. 1) and current basin average snow water content.** These indicate both below normal seasonal precipitation and lack of any significant snowpack. These factors combined support an active fire season across the southwest at all elevations ranges.

# Snow Water Equivalent 2006-01-10 06

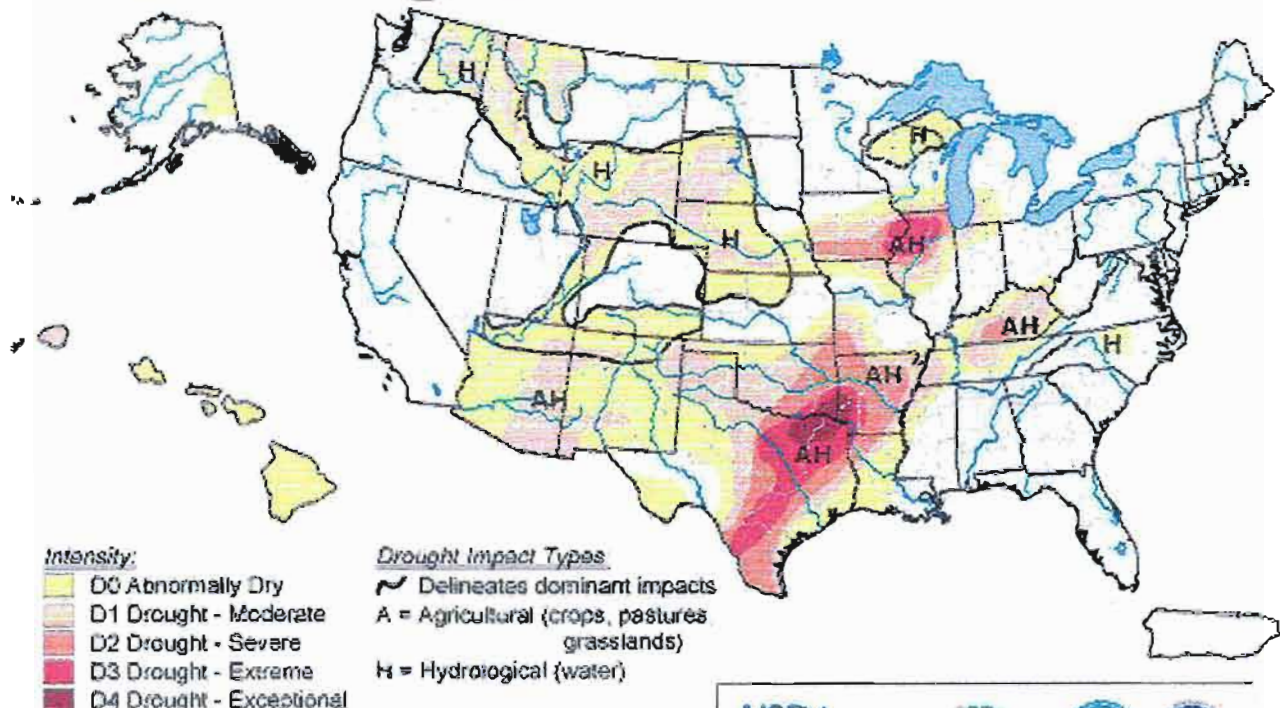


**Snow water equivalent image showing extent of areal snow cover across the Southwest Area as of early January.** The recent warmer and drier conditions across the southwest and the lack of storm systems have lead to a nearly non-existent snowpack through early January.



# U.S. Drought Monitor

January 3, 2006  
Valid 7 a.m. EST



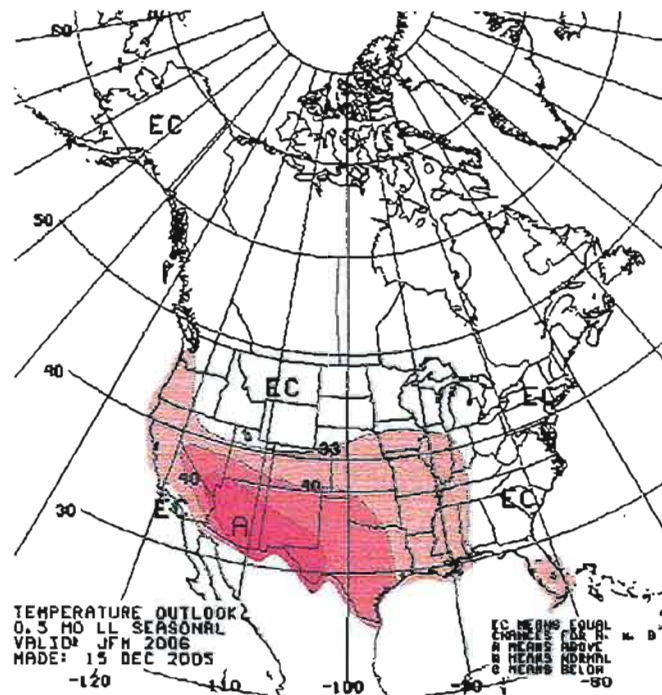
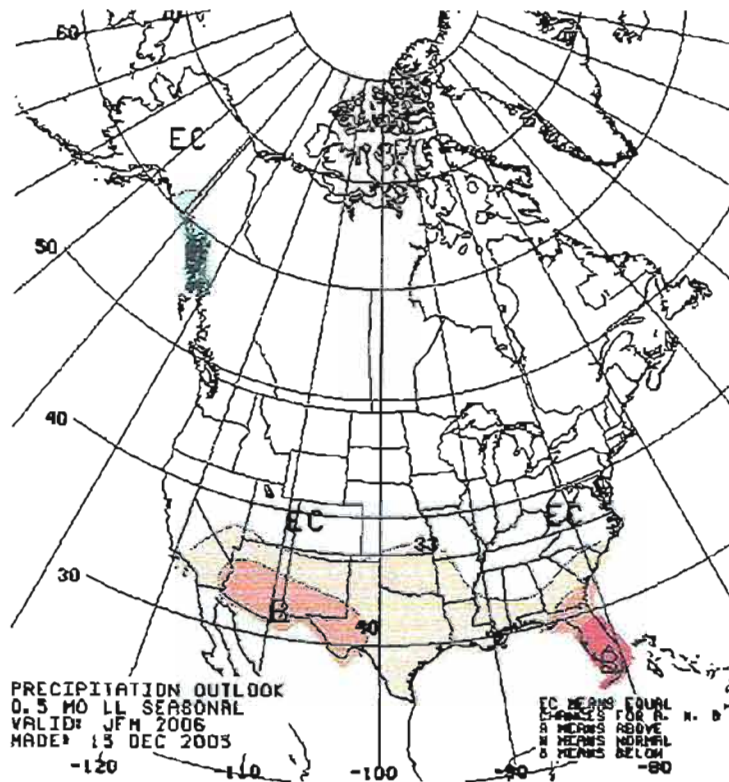
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions  
Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary  
for forecast statements.



Released Thursday, January 5, 2006  
Author: Douglas Le Comte, CPC/NOAA

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>

**Most recent U.S. Drought Monitor image showing significant portions of the Southwest Area as Abnormally Dry or in Moderate hydrological (long term) drought as the result of a multi-year precipitation deficit.** Long term drought acts to increase dead fuel loadings and, depending on more recent conditions, can lead to unusually low fuel moisture values in both live and dead fuels. Of note is that areas of eastern Arizona and western New Mexico are in a more elevated drought condition.

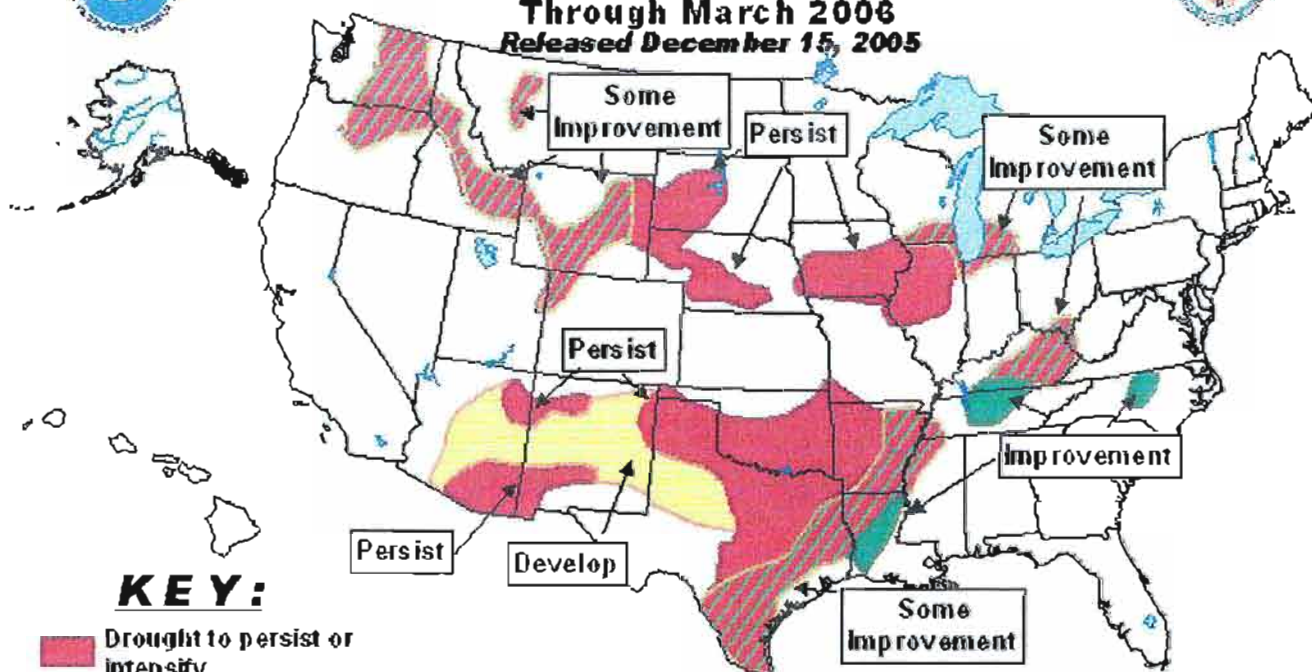


**Outlook for the months of January-February-March from the Climate Prediction Center, showing relatively hot and dry conditions forecast for the entire southwestern U.S. A developing La Nina episode is playing a role in inhibiting storm systems from affecting the region. Precipitation is expected to remain below to much below normal through spring.**



# U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Through March 2006  
Released December 15, 2005



## KEY:

-  Drought to persist or intensify
-  Drought ongoing, some improvement
-  Drought likely to improve, impacts ease
-  Drought development likely

Depicts general, large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by numerous indicators, including short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Short-term events -- such as individual storms -- cannot be accurately forecast more than a few days in advance, so use caution if using this outlook for applications -- such as crops -- that can be affected by such events. "Ongoing" drought areas are approximated from the Drought Monitor (D1 to D4). For weekly drought updates, see the latest Drought Monitor map and text. NOTE: the green improvement areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels, but do not necessarily imply drought elimination.

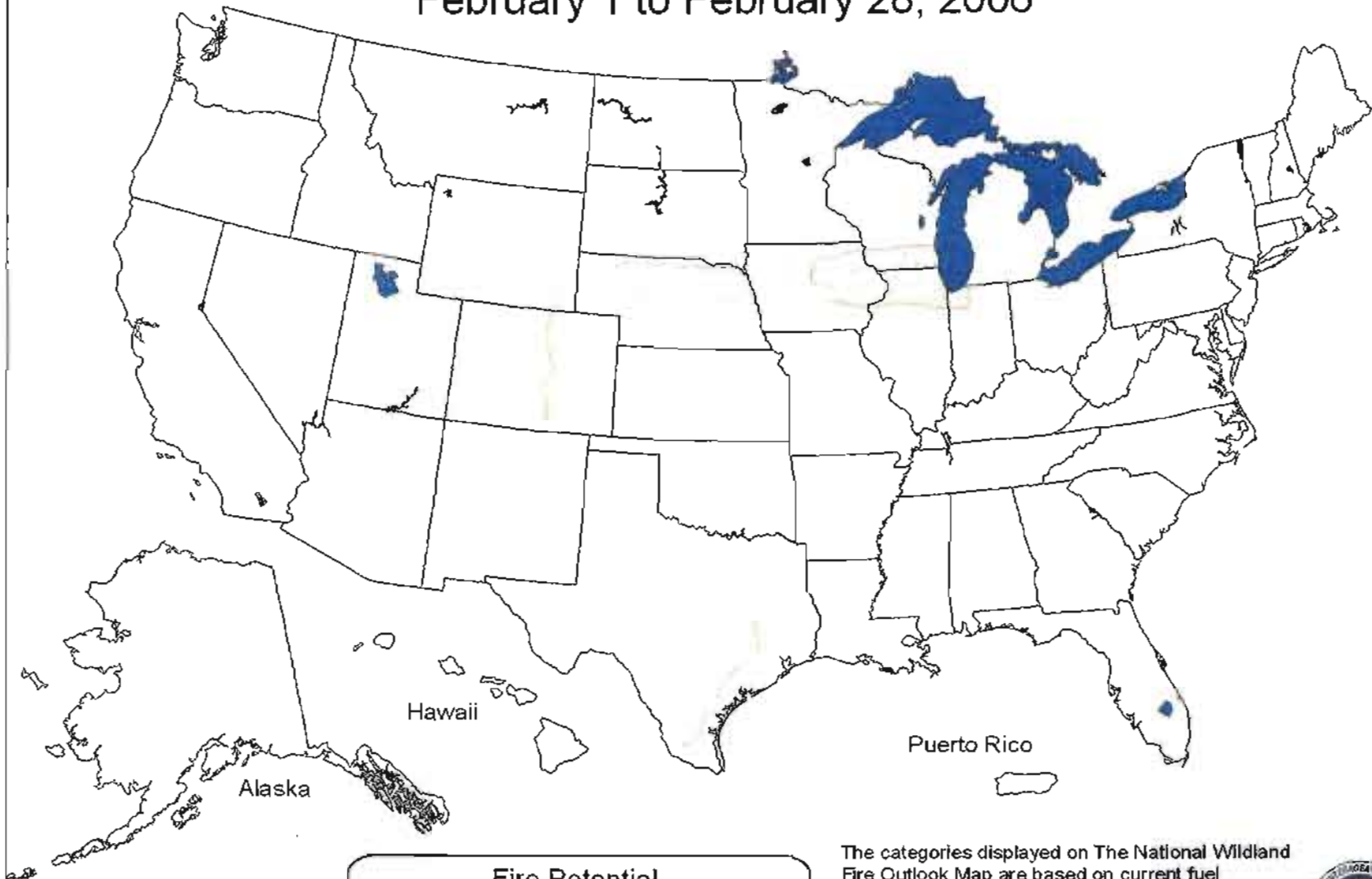
### U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook showing the effects of winter and forecast early spring conditions on the current drought situation as shown earlier by the U.S. Drought Monitor.

Current drought conditions across much of the Southwest Area are expected to worsen through March, which supports the much increased probability of a region-wide severe fire season.

Predictive Services Group  
Southwest Coordination Center



## National Wildland Fire Outlook February 1 to February 28, 2006



Map produced by the Intelligence-Predictive  
Services Section at the National Interagency  
Coordination Center, Boise, Idaho.

### Fire Potential

 Below Normal	 Above Normal
 Normal	 Critical

The categories displayed on The National Wildland  
Fire Outlook Map are based on current fuel  
conditions, long-lead weather forecasts,  
climatology, and other factors. Combined, these  
factors provide expected departure from average  
fire potential for the outlook period.



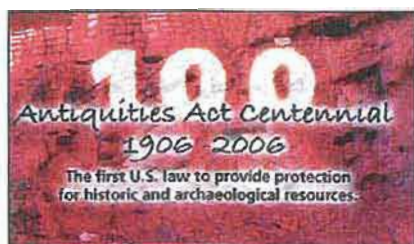
# ANTIQUITIES ACT CENTENNIAL (1906 – 2006): A NEW BEGINNING FOR BLM'S "ADVENTURES IN THE PAST"



Honor the Past • Shape the Future



The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, is proud to manage 261 million acres of public lands and their resources, including the largest, most diverse, and most scientifically important heritage (archaeological, historic, and paleontological) resources of all the Federal land management agencies. These resources represent the tangible remains of at least 13,000 years of human adaptation to the land, as well as eons of habitation by many plant and animal species that are now extinct.



In 2006, BLM will celebrate 100 years of historic preservation that began with the passage of the Antiquities Act of 1906, the legislative basis for the protection and preservation of cultural properties. The Centennial has provided the impetus for BLM to re-energize "Adventures in the Past," BLM's umbrella program for education about—and citizen involvement in—the protection of America's heritage resources.

Now, BLM invites you to investigate all that "Adventures" has to offer, whether you're an educator or student, virtual traveler or rugged adventurer, heritage professional or recreational enthusiast. Most of our information and materials are accessible via our beautiful, newly designed "Adventures in the Past" website, which includes:

- ① Information and teaching materials for educators and students of all ages.
- ② Virtual site tours and real-world itineraries for western heritage excursions.
- ③ Professional publications and research from BLM archaeologists, historians, and paleontologists.
- ④ Opportunities to volunteer at heritage sites on BLM public lands.
- ⑤ Information on heritage careers with BLM.
- ⑥ Tips on how to protect heritage resources on both public and private lands.
- ⑦ Profiles of professional BLM heritage specialists and features on ongoing heritage projects.



For more information on "Adventures in the Past," visit <http://www.blm.gov/heritage/adventures>, or in Arizona contact Gary Stumpf (602) 417-9236 or Kathy Pedrick (602) 417-9235.





Honor the Past, Shape the Future  
*Antiquities Act Centennial – 1906-2006*

Calendar of Events

Date	Event/Location	Contact	Phone
Oct. 28-30, '05	Safford Symposium: Recent Research on Prehistoric Archaeology of Safford Basin	Diane Drobka, Safford Field Office	(928) 348-4400
Oct. '05 – May '06	Sears Point Rock Art Recording	Lori Cook Yuma Field Office	(928) 317-3200
Jan. - May '06	Underwater Archaeology Class Mohave Community College Lake Havasu Underwater Survey	Diane Williams Lake Havasu Field Office	(928) 505-1250
Jan. – April '06	Paleontology Survey Project	Lori Cook Yuma Field Office	(928) 317-3200
Jan. 10 – Mar. 14, '06	Every Tuesday, from 6-8p, classes on Prehistory of American Southwest	Jim Whittington, Kingman Field Office	(928) 718-3700
Jan. – Sept. '06	Swansea Town Site Stabilization on Worker Cottages – Select Wednesdays	Diane Williams Lake Havasu Field Office	(928) 505-1250
Jan. – Sept. '06	Sign Installation, Barrier Construction & Site Survey Recording – Select Thursdays	Diane Williams Lake Havasu Field Office	(928) 505-1250
Jan. – Sept. '06	Paleontology Survey – Select Mondays and Fridays	Diane Williams Lake Havasu Field Office	(928) 505-1250
Feb. 16-18, '06	Worldwide Juan Bautista de Anza Conference	Lori Cook, Yuma Field Office	(928) 317-3200
Feb. 25, '06	Rededication Ceremony of the Initial Point of the Gila and Salt	Dorothea Boothe	(602) 417-9219



	River Base Line and Meridian National Historic Site		
Mar. '06	Archaeology Presentation at Local Schools	Jim Whittington, Kingman Field Office	(928) 718-3700
Mar. '06	Public Field Trip/Presentation – Buckskin State Park	Diane Williams Lake Havasu Field Office	(928) 718-3700
Mar. – May '06	Installation of Interpretive Signs at Select Intaglio Sites	Lori Cook, Yuma Field Office	(928) 317-3200
Mar. 1-2, '06	Archaeology Presentation @ Desert Mesa Elementary School	Lori Cook, Yuma Field Office	(928) 317-3200
Mar. 3-4, '06	Archaeology Expo Tubac, Arizona	Gary Stumpf, Arizona State Office	(602) 417-9236
Mar. 7, '06	Archaeology Presentation @ Palmscroft Elementary School	Lori Cook, Yuma Field Office	(928) 317-3200
Mar. 9-10, '06	Archaeology Presentation @ Mary E. Post Elementary School	Lori Cook, Yuma Field Office	(928) 317-3200
April 4-9, '06	Yuma County Fair	Tom Zale, Yuma Field Office	(928) 317-3200
Apr 20-22, '06	Yuma Birding & Nature Festival	Tom Zale, Yuma Field Office	(928) 317-3200
April – July '06	Yuma Art Center Exhibition	Tom Zale, Yuma Field Office	(928) 317-3200
Summer '06	Underwater Project w/ local dive club to investigate potential underwater park & evaluate historic sites	Diane Williams Lake Havasu Field Office	(928) 718-3700
June '06	Upper Burrow Creek Archaeological Summer Field School Survey	Jim Whittington, Kingman Field Office	(928) 718-3700
June '06	Underwater Archaeology Class – Summer Field School (Tent.)	Diane Williams Lake Havasu Field Office	(928) 718-3700
Sept. '06	Lake Havasu Museum – Talk on Swansea Town Site w/ field tour	Diane Williams Lake Havasu Field Office	(928) 718-3700
Sept. '06	National Public Lands Day (NPLD) Events Throughout Arizona	Field Office Coordinators	
Sept. 30, '06	Underwater Clean Up of selected locations in Lake Havasu	Diane Williams Lake Havasu Field Office	(928) 505-1250
Sept. 30, '06	Empire Ranch Roundup and National Public Lands Day	Lorraine Buck Tucson Field Office	(520) 258-7200
Oct. '06	Swansea Townsite Work Day – BLM and Volunteers	Diane Williams Lake Havasu Field Office	(928) 505-1250
Oct. 28, '06	Arizona Antiquities Festival at the Agua Fria National Monument	Kathy Pedrick & Chistine Tincher Phoenix District Office	(602) 417-9235
TBD	Dankworth Village Restoration Safford, Arizona	Diane Drobka, Safford Field Office	(928) 348-4400

TBD	National Register Nomination of Indian Point Petroglyph Site	Jim Whittington, Kingman Field Office	(928) 718-3700
TBD	Ongoing Historic Mine Documentation	Jim Whittington, Kingman Field Office	(928) 718-3700
TBD	Planned Completion of Hualapai War Documentation	Jim Whittington, Kingman Field Office	(928) 718-3700
TBD	Antiquities Act of 1906 Presentation to Arizona Archaeological Society Mohave Chapter	Jim Whittington, Kingman Field Office	(928) 718-3700
TBD	Gold King Mansion Stabilization	Jim Whittington, Kingman Field Office	(928) 718-3700
	Construction of bird-viewing blinds Dankworth Ponds and Village	Diane Drobka, Safford Field Office	(928) 348-4400

For more information on any of these upcoming events or field projects, please contact the appropriate BLM employee or Kathy Pedrick at (602) 417-9235. This calendar of events will be updated periodically to change or add dates to the events still being planned.





# Cultural Resources on America's Public Lands



## BLM, the Nation's Largest Land Managing Agency

The Bureau of Land Management, an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, manages 261 million acres of public land, more than any other Federal agency. These lands represent about one-eighth of the United States and are found primarily in the American West (in 12 western states, including Alaska).

Public lands managed by the BLM include grasslands, forests, high mountains, arctic tundra and deserts. They contain an abundance of resources such as timber, forage, wild horse and burro populations, fish and wildlife habitat, wilderness areas, paleontological sites, and cultural resources.

## What Cultural Resources does BLM Manage?

Cultural resources include archaeological sites, historic sites, and places of traditional importance to Native Americans and other ethnic groups. BLM is responsible for the Federal government's largest, most varied and most scientifically important body of cultural resources. These resources represent the tangible remains of 13,000 or more years of human adaptation to the land, spanning the entire spectrum of human experiences since people first set foot on the North American continent.

About 16 million acres, or 6 percent of BLM's current acreage, have been intensively inventoried for cultural resources since the mid-1970s, and more than 271,000 archaeological and historic sites have been recorded. Based on this sample, an estimated 4 million archaeological and historic sites exist on the public lands today. BLM manages this important cultural legacy for its scientific, educational and recreational values.

BLM's cultural resources include: scatters of prehistoric artifacts; ancient Paleo-Indian mammoth kill sites; stratified cave deposits; tantalizing, oversized ground figures etched in desert pavements (intaglios); awe-inspiring prehistoric complexes of Ancestral Puebloan villages and cliff dwellings; intriguing remnants of Spanish- and Russian-period exploration; the trails and lonely outposts of historic-era exploration and settlement; lighthouses that guided ships at sea; evidence of mining and ranching; and even remnants of 19<sup>th</sup>- and early 20<sup>th</sup>-century military activities.



## Why are Cultural Resources Important?

The cultural resources managed by the BLM are a constant source of fascination for visitors. People look to these resources for recreational opportunities (sightseeing and photography), satisfaction of their curiosity about the recent and remote past, preservation and continuation of their cultures, and inspiration about the human spirit.

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BLM's cultural resources reflect nearly every cultural tradition and ethnicity present in American society, including first Americans (ancient cultures and contemporary Indian tribes) and immigrant Americans (explorers, miners, ranchers, homesteaders, soldiers, and others). For researchers, educators, and interpreters, these resources tell us when people first arrived on the continent, how they dispersed, how cultures flourished, what led to their demise, how they perceived the spiritual world, how they interacted with other cultural groups, how they exploited—and perhaps overexploited—their environments, how they treated their dead, how and why they came into conflict, and much more. The lessons we can learn from past cultures have direct relevance to the choices facing our society today.

### How Can I Help Protect Cultural Resources?

A small but growing cadre of volunteer "Site Stewards" is working behind the scenes to help BLM archaeologists document and protect cultural resources on the public lands. Site Stewards keep an eye on archaeological sites threatened by vandalism or natural deterioration. They monitor conditions of the sites and report these to professional archaeologists, using observations, field notes, drawings, and/or photography to record changes over time. Site Stewards also assist in surveying, mapping, and collecting oral histories. Many Site Stewards provide educational outreach programs that increase awareness of the importance and lasting value of cultural resources, and encourage understanding and respect for cultural diversity.

Site Steward programs are active in at least eight western and some eastern states. From programs established by state legislation to those existing as grassroots efforts, they all have at least one element in common: a determination to stop vandalism and theft and to create a record of what exists on the land. One does not need any particular expertise to volunteer, as training is provided. Aside from organized Site Steward programs, members of the public can help BLM manage and protect cultural resources by simply reporting the location of any artifacts they find to the nearest BLM office. That way, BLM archaeologists can ensure that the artifacts are properly recorded, studied and preserved for everyone's benefit. Visitors should not disturb or remove any artifacts found, as important information may be lost, no matter how much care is taken. There are also serious penalties for unauthorized collection.

### How Can I Learn More?

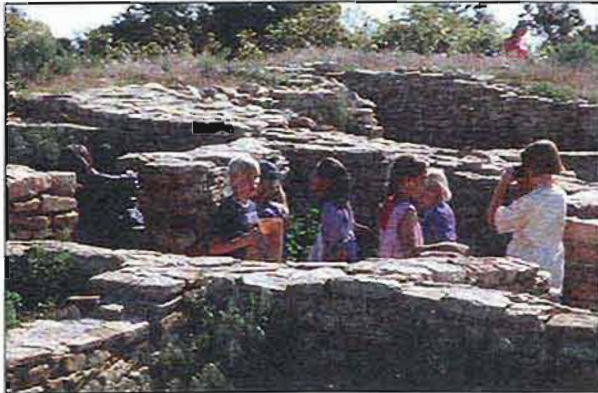
For information about cultural resources on the public lands, or about volunteer opportunities, including local Site Steward programs, please contact your nearest BLM office or visit our website at [www.blm.gov/heritage/adventures/](http://www.blm.gov/heritage/adventures/). <<<





# Heritage Resources Provide Educational Opportunities

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Did you know that the Bureau of Land Management manages the federal government's largest, most varied and scientifically important body of cultural and fossil resources? There are an estimated 4 million archaeological sites on public lands administered by the BLM, ranging from scatters of prehistoric artifacts, ancient Paleo-Indian mammoth kill sites, and oversized ground figures etched in desert pavements (intaglios) to awe-inspiring prehistoric complexes of Ancestral Puebloan villages, intriguing remnants of Spanish- and Russian-period exploration, trails and lonely outposts of historic-era exploration and settlement, evidence of mining and ranching, and even remnants of 19<sup>th</sup>- and early 20<sup>th</sup>-century military activities.

Together, cultural resources represent the tangible remains of 13,000 years of human occupation of North America. Fossil resources span millions of years and range from gigantic dinosaurs to tiny invertebrates to delicate leaves and fronds.

## How can the BLM's heritage resources help educators and students?

BLM's archaeological, historical and fossil resources offer almost limitless opportunities to America's teachers. Our Heritage Education program promotes "stewardship of cultural and fossil resources so that present and future generations can learn from and enjoy their heritage on

Bureau of Land Management lands without harm to the resources." We want to make the past come alive for students and help teachers enrich their lessons. Messages about stewardship – and personal responsibility – are important because America's heritage resources are at risk of damage or loss from natural and human forces. For example, of the estimated 4 million archaeological sites on BLM public lands, only 271,000 properties have been recorded. About the rest, little is known. Individual stewardship is vital to the conservation of these resources for present and future generations.

## What educational opportunities does BLM offer?

BLM's Heritage Education Program consists of four main projects:

- Project Archaeology – classroom materials for teachers and students;
- History Mysteries – public lands-related activities for children;
- Web-based outreach – general heritage education and activities for children;
- Public events and professional conferences – venues for distributing information about BLM's Heritage Education Program.

## Where can I get more information?

For more information about BLM Heritage Education Programs visit the BLM's website at: [www.blm.gov/heritage/adventures](http://www.blm.gov/heritage/adventures) or contact:

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# The Antiquities Act: A Century of Historic Preservation

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## Establishing Federal Policy to Protect Antiquities

One hundred years ago, President Theodore Roosevelt signed "An Act for the Preservation of American Antiquities," otherwise known as the Antiquities Act of 1906. This was the first time the United States recognized, in law, that the material remains of our past were a valuable part of our heritage.

The Antiquities Act set the stage for a comprehensive body of law and policies that became the foundation for the cultural resource management programs of federal land managing agencies. The Act created criminal sanctions for the destruction of antiquities, provided for permits to authorize study of archaeological sites, and allowed presidential designation of outstanding archaeological, historic and scientific areas as national monuments for long-term preservation.

Congress first began to consider the need to protect American antiquities on federal lands in 1882, largely in response to reports of widespread looting of pueblo ruins

in the American Southwest. Many years passed, however, and much more looting was to occur, before Congress was ready to stop the destruction. Eventually, public sentiment spurred Congress to take action, culminating in passage of the Antiquities Act. Its purpose was to protect "any historic or prehistoric ruin or monument, or any object of antiquity" on land owned or controlled by the Federal Government.

## Designating National Monuments

In addition to protecting archaeological and historic sites, the Antiquities Act provided the President with the means of setting important places aside for special preservation and interpretation. This function of the Act has been used by Presidents throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century to establish national monuments preserving nationally important archaeological, historic, and natural areas. In all, 14 presidents -- Theodore Roosevelt, William Taft, Woodrow Wilson, Warren Harding, Calvin Coolidge, Herbert Hoover, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower, John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, Jimmy Carter and William Clinton -- have established national monuments through proclamation or by approving special acts of Congress.

Prior to the Antiquities Act, specific areas had been set aside as parks or reserves. For example, Yellowstone National Park was established in 1872, and Casa Grande Ruin in Arizona was reserved from settlement and sale in 1892. But each of these parks or reservations required an act of Congress, as well as Presidential approval. The Antiquities Act made the establishment of national monuments administrative actions that were quicker and far easier to execute. Section 2 of the Act gave the President the authority to proclaim national monuments, to set aside for protection "... historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States . . ."

The first national monument to be established under the Antiquities Act was proclaimed by President Theodore

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Roosevelt on September 24, 1906. It was created to protect Devil's Tower in Wyoming. Although historic interest is cited as a factor, this first proclamation created what was essentially a scientific monument.

Before President Roosevelt left office in 1909, he signed proclamations establishing 18 national monuments. Six were created primarily to preserve historic and prehistoric sites including Montezuma's Castle, Tonto ruins, and Tumacacori in Arizona. Twelve were created primarily to preserve other "objects of scientific interest" including Petrified Forest and Grand Canyon.

The Grand Canyon was the most remarkable of the early scientific monuments because of its enormous size. The first eleven historic and scientific monuments prior to this were relatively small, averaging a little more than 3,000 acres each. But in 1908, Roosevelt proclaimed an immense area, more than 800,000 acres in what was at that time Arizona Territory, to be the Grand Canyon National Monument. This created an important precedent in terms of the scale that was conceivable for national monuments.

### The Antiquities Act as an Enforcement Tool

Originally, a criminal conviction under the Antiquities Act was punishable by a fine of not more than \$500, or imprisonment not to exceed 90 days, or both. In 1987, the penalties increased to a maximum fine of \$5,000 per individual, six months imprisonment, or both. These

criminal provisions of the Antiquities Act were intended to protect archaeological sites but there is scant evidence that the Act had much effect on looting and vandalism. Since 1906, there have only been 18 convictions for violations of the Antiquities Act, and in 1974, the criminal provisions of the Act were effectively nullified by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals which

held that the term "object of antiquity" was ambiguous and the law was therefore unconstitutional. After that, a few Antiquities Act cases were prosecuted in the Tenth Circuit but in 1979, the Antiquities Act was supplanted by the Archaeological Resources Protection Act as a tool for prosecuting looters of archaeological sites.

Despite its modest record in deterring archaeological looters, the Antiquities Act has an outstanding record of preserving archaeological and historic resources through its use as the authority to create national monuments. The preservation of landscapes and the archaeological and historic resources on them is arguably the Act's most important legacy and its greatest strength as a piece of legislation. The Act also established the foundation for federal historic preservation policy and stood for 73 years as the only specific legislation to protect archaeological sites on federal lands. ◀◀

Sources: *The Antiquities Act of 1906*, by Ronald F. Lee, USDI National Park Service, 1970. *Archeological Resource Protection*, by Sherry Hutt, Elwood W. Jones and Martin E. McAllister, The Preservation Press, National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1992.

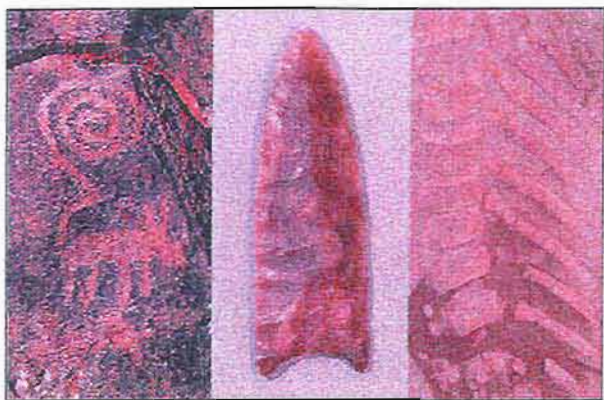


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# Discover, Enjoy and Protect Cultural and Fossil Resources



Archaeological, historical, and paleontological resources on BLM public lands tell the story of our recent and distant past. These "heritage" resources contribute to our understanding of the origins of life and civilization in North America. They also dazzle, delight, thrill, fascinate—and sometimes bewilder—any person who comes upon them, whether a curious tourist, an intrepid backcountry adventurer, an accidental visitor, an artist in search of inspiration, or an inquisitive scientist.

However, America's heritage resources, both those that are visible and those that are buried, are at risk from theft and looting, population growth and urban sprawl, development, off-road activity, and natural deterioration, even though they are legally protected under various Federal and state statutes.

Visitors to the public lands can take personal responsibility for protecting and preserving heritage sites for future generations by following some of these simple principles:

- Leave artifacts and fossils where you find them. It is illegal to dig, remove, or collect artifacts and vertebrate fossils without a permit.
- Avoid moving or climbing on the walls of prehistoric or historic structures when touring sites.

- Treat rock art, historic structures, and archaeological features with respect.
- Touching, chalking, or making rubbings or latex molds cause damage to rock art, gravestones, and fossil trackways. Take photographs or make a sketch instead.
- Stay on existing roads and trails.
- For campfires, collect only dead and downed wood that is clearly not from historic or prehistoric sites. Collect wood and build fires at least 200 yards away from heritage sites.
- If you camp or recreate near heritage sites—or anywhere on public lands—dispose of waste in trash receptacles if provided; otherwise, pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter.
- Never dig "catholes" for human waste disposal near heritage sites.
- Educate others never to dig at sites or collect artifacts or vertebrate fossils.
- Report the location of archaeological sites and vertebrate fossils to the nearest BLM office, so that land managers can alert professionals to their existence.
- Report looting and vandalism to a BLM ranger or other local authority.

Phone numbers for reporting vandalism are:

1-800-722-3998  
1-800-333-SAVE  
1-800-242-ARPA (Archaeological Resources Protection Act hotline)

Any of these numbers may be used to report vandalism; callers may be referred to the land-managing agency on whose land the violation has occurred or to local authorities.

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# **SOUTHERN ARIZONA PROJECT TO MITIGATE ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGES RESULTING FROM ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION**

## **A SUMMARY OF 2003-2005 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

### **What are the “Kolbe” funds?**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has, since Fiscal Year (FY) 2003, administered special annual congressional appropriations known locally as the “Kolbe” funds which have been used for the Southern Arizona Project. These funds have been applied to lands mainly from the Tohono O’odham Nation lands east to the New Mexico border and to southwestern Arizona at the Colorado River to mitigate the impacts caused by illegal immigration and smuggling on public and adjacent lands. [See attached map.]

Detailed End-of-Year reports for this program have been issued by BLM for FY2003, FY2004 and FY2005 (titles listed below). This Summary Report addresses the project accomplishments for the fiscal years 2003 through 2005.

In 2002, at the request of Congress (and as initiated by Congressman Jim Kolbe), the Department of the Interior (DOI), U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Department of Justice submitted a *“Report to the House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations on Impacts Caused by Undocumented Aliens Crossing Federal Lands in Southeast Arizona”*. This report included a draft coordinated plan to mitigate damages caused by smugglers of controlled substances and undocumented aliens in southeast Arizona. Estimated needs for the first year of implementation of the draft plan total \$23.5 million and more than 90 Full Time Equivalents (FTE). The first-year estimate for BLM was \$3.8 million and 24 FTE.

In 2003, as a result of the report, the House Appropriations Committee (as initiated by Congressman Kolbe and supported by other Arizona Representatives) included \$1 million for BLM in the DOI and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for 2003. After conference and rescission, the final amount received was \$695,000 in March 2003. Thereafter, BLM has received these amounts (after conference and rescission) for the mitigation of impacts caused by illegal smuggling:

FY2003	\$ 695,000
FY2004	\$ 790,000
FY2005	\$ 986,000
FY2006	\$ 971,000

## What Are the Impacts from Illegal Immigration and Smuggling?

As described in the 2002 House report and in BLM end-of-year reports, the impacts are substantial, increasing in amount, and spreading. Within the borderlands zone (100 miles north of the US-Mexico border) are federal public lands including National Parks, National Monuments, National Conservation Areas, National Wildlife Refuges, BLM and National Forest public lands, Indian lands including the Tohono O'odham Nation, and state, county and private lands---all experiencing similar impacts:

**Litter:** Thousands of acres are covered by trash. It has been estimated that each immigrant (undocumented alien "UDA", undocumented immigrant "UDI", or undocumented migrant "UDM") discards at least eight pounds of trash on his/her journey through southern Arizona. This anecdotal figure feels correct to many individuals involved in removing trash. On this basis, with over 3,200,000 immigrants apprehended by the U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) since FY2000, almost 25,000,000 pounds of trash could have been left, 86% on federal and tribal lands in southern Arizona. Add to this the number of illegal immigrants that were not apprehended but left trash on these lands as they crossed and we now have an understanding of the scope of the litter.

What's in the litter? And why is it discarded? Some items are obviously utilized on their trip; others, such as personal papers, are apparently discarded in haste when coyote (smuggler) pick-ups occur or USBP agents and law enforcement officers interrupt the immigrant journeys. Essentially, litter includes:

- **Containers and Bottles:** Thousands of plastic water bottles from 1-gallon size to pint size, broken glass jars, electrolyte bottles, juices, milk containers, baby bottles, soda and beer bottles (many beer bottles shot to pieces).
- **Personal Hygiene Items and Medications:** Razors, combs, brushes, shampoo, toothpaste, mouthwash, soap, makeup, toothbrushes, medications, (Naproxin, Advil, Aspirin, stomach meds, electrolytes), vitamins.
- **Clothing and Shoes:** Pants, sox, underwear, shirts, hats, caps, gloves, coats; high heels, shower shoes, boots, tennis shoes and thongs.
- **Food and food cans:** food cans (tuna, beans, juices, etc), mostly from Mexico, food cans opened with a pocketknife, leaving ragged edges and torn metal lids; tortillas, baby foods; food items in American store containers and bags;
- **Jewelry:** Watches, necklaces, bracelets, knives, key chains.
- **Paper:** Many items originate from other countries besides Mexico. Forms from maquiladore factories; airline and bus ticket stubs; phone cards, Social Security cards, identification cards; pay receipts from the US; photographs, letters, books, promissory notes, paper money; toilet paper, sanitary pads, disposable diapers.
- **Fabric and plastic:** Back packs by the hundreds; blankets, towels, table cloths, serapes, rags, rope, string, wire, lots of plastic bags used for carrying food, or large ones for use as raincoats; fanny packs, shoulder packs, wallets, gloves.
- **Miscellaneous:** Batteries, cell phones, radios, home-made weapons
- **Human Waste:** the accumulation of disintegrating toilet paper and human feces represents both health and safety concerns and is unsightly to visitors.



**Illegal roads and trails and damaged infrastructure and improvements:**

Thousands of roads and trails are being illegally established. Illegal roads and trails fragment habitat, destroy vegetation, cause erosion and leave unsightly scars which, if not rehabilitated, will last for decades in areas which were pristine less than a decade ago. Legal roads become unusable due to illegal vehicle traffic and required law enforcement use. Paths made by thousands of feet cross sensitive areas such as archaeological sites, riparian zones and springs.

Gates are rammed and range improvements are damaged. Fences are cut, run over, left open or removed. Water tanks for cattle and wildlife are emptied of water or destroyed, adding to the critical shortage in severe drought conditions.

**Abandoned vehicles and bicycles:** Bicycles began to emerge as a significant item in 2003 and some use may stem from transporting drugs as well as humans. The Tohono O'odham Nation reports that bicycles are used at night across the reservation

Hundreds of smuggling vehicles have been abandoned and tires, batteries, gas cans and seats scattered across the landscape. Abandoned and often burned vehicles are difficult and costly to remove with great care needed to avoid further damage by the removal. Even though hundreds of vehicles have been removed, hundreds need removal.

**Campfires and escaped fires:** The impacts of warming and cooking fires by illegal immigrants cannot be overlooked in southern Arizona where the drought is a serious issue with no end in sight. Fires not only escape and destroy vegetation and wildlife habitat, and cause a safety hazard to people, but they increase the costs of suppressing fires and increase the requirements for prescriptive burns.

**Vandalism, Graffiti and Archaeological Site Damage:** New images scratched or spray painted on trees, boulders and sites sometimes mark the path and sometimes indicate time spent in passing or waiting. Historic and prehistoric sites are covered with litter, trampled or have paths cut through them.

**Who is involved in the Southern Arizona Projects?**

To complete the mitigation actions, BLM has completed assistance agreements with a wide variety of groups, agencies, counties and cities, and the Tohono O'odham Nation. Each annual report from 2003 to 2005 presents detailed accomplishments for that year with descriptions of work accompanied by photographs illustrating the landscape before and after the project work. Individual BLM field offices in southern Arizona work with adjacent agencies and groups allocating specific dollars through the agreements. Almost all federal units on the attached map have received funding or support.

Agency, Unit or Organization Funded	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06 Approximately 5% unallocated as yet
BLM Safford Field Office (FO)	\$ 15,000 *	\$ 12,000 *	\$ 12,000 *	\$ 15,000 *
BLM Tucson FO	\$ 317,000 *	\$ 282,000 *	\$ 399,000 *	\$ 318,000 *
BLM Phoenix FO	-0-	\$ 107,000	\$ 169,000 *	\$ 144,000 *
BLM Yuma FO	-0-	\$ 69,000	\$ 62,000	\$ 96,500 *
BLM AZ State Office Law Enforcement	\$ 70,000	\$ 83,000	\$ 103,000	\$ 55,000
BLM AZ State Office	\$ 85,000?	\$ 7,000	\$ 11,000	\$ 9,000
Malpai Borderlands Group	\$ 90,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 0	\$ 23,500
Gila Watershed Partnership			\$ 25,000	\$ 20,000
International Sonoran Desert Alliance (ISDA)			\$ 20,000	\$ - 0 -
National Park Service (NPS)**	\$ 20,000 FB	\$ 20,000 FB	\$ 25,000 FB \$ 16,000 CNM	\$ 16,000 CNM \$ 30,000 OP
Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS)***	\$ 20,000 LSB	\$ 20,000 LSB	\$ 45,000 LSB \$ 14,000 BA	\$ 20,000 LSB \$ 14,000 BA \$ 28,000 CP
Coronado National Forest	1 project with BLM in FY03			\$ 30,000
Cochise County	\$ 43,600	\$ 20,000		\$ 20,000
Graham County	\$ 35,000	\$ 30,000	\$ -0-	\$ 10,000
Santa Cruz County	\$ 35,000			
Pima County			\$ 35,000	\$ 30,000
Town of Marana	\$ 35,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000
Tohono O'odham		\$ 50,000	\$ 19,000	\$ 50,000

\* Plus funding for partnerships listed below in the same column

\*\*National Park Service (NPS) units: Ft. Bowie National Historic site (FB); Coronado National Memorial (CNM); Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument (OP)

\*\*\*Fish & Wildlife Service units: Leslie Canyon/San Bernardino (LSB) National Wildlife Refuge (NWF); Buenos Aires NWF (BA); Cabeza Prieta NWR (CP)

**Other Partnerships:** Additionally BLM has utilized contracted services and cooperative agreements for several youth corps groups to participate in the projects. These individuals have been the backbone of the on-the-ground accomplishments.

- Student Conservation Association (SCA)
- Youth Corps of Southern Arizona (YCOSA)  
and Community Learning Adventure Service Project (CLASP)
- Northwest Youth Corps

- Coconino Rural Environment Corps

Through volunteer agreements, significant service organizations and other volunteers have provided in-kind donations or utilized materials to remove litter, create barricades, install signs, etc:

- US Border Patrol (pilot-testing trash bags in patrol vehicles)
- Humane Borders
- Sky Island Alliance
- BorderLinks
- Audubon Research Ranch
- Southwest Open School, Durango Colorado
- Arizona Wilderness Coalition
- Southeastern Arizona Clean and Beautiful (SEACAB)
- Safford 4-H
- Girl Scout, Boy Scouts and Eagle Scout Troop
- And for the 2003 Kick-Off event: Fort Huachuca, Friends of the San Pedro, The Nature Conservancy, the Sierra Club, National Forest Service Sierra Vista Ranger District, Southern Arizona Bird Observatory, Upper San Pedro Partnership, USBP, SP&SW Railway, Cochise Co. prison crew

Some of these groups made and continue to make significant dents in the migration efforts for lands managed by BLM. Two examples:

**Town of Marana:** In 2003, between Oct 1 and Dec 17, the Town of Marana did a weekly cleanup every Wednesday resulting in 15,000 lbs of trash removal, 15 cubic yards of tire removal, and 1 illegal smuggling route was re-vegetated. Between January and April 2004 and July 2004, the Town's crews, removed another 26,000 lbs of trash and 15 cubic yards of tires and rehabilitated 10 illegal roads. In FY2005, the Town removed over 30,000 pounds of trash and 15 cubic yards of tires. All trash and tires were removed from the Ironwood Forest National Monument (IFNM) adjacent to the Town.

**Humane Borders:** in FY2005 on 12 occasions, 2 to 47 participants contributed over 720 hours picking up 155 bags of trash (estimate of 75 cubic yards) and removing these to a landfill. This group also provided substantial assistance in FY2004: on 8 occasions, 14 to 25 individuals contributed 630 hours to pick up and remove 296 bags of trash. All efforts took place at the IFNM which is 70 miles north of the US border with Mexico.

### **What are the Accomplishments of the Project?**

**Litter removal:** BLM and its partners vary in how trash is accounted for because of the removal methods: some count bags which are roughly ½ cubic yard when filled; some weigh trash, bags or roll-offs recording pounds and tons. The BLM ordered over \$25,000 of lime green, extra-thick trash bags. These bags are recognized at landfill sites and charged against the deposits that BLM makes in advance. The figures below were reported in the 2003, 2004 and 2005 end-of-year reports:

	Bags	10,620 bags that have been recorded; about 5,000 cubic yards
+	Pounds	79,733 pounds weighed in at landfill sites
+	Pounds	Hundreds of other pounds that were not formally weighed
+	cubic yards	30 cubic yards of tires
+	Roll-offs	15 trash rolls offs (over 38 tons)

Conservatively, more than 250,000 pounds of trash have been removed in 3 years, most of it picked up by hands (protected with gloves) and a great deal of that done by young crewmembers.

- Abandoned car removals: 300 removed from the BLM Phoenix Field Office (Sonoran Desert National Monument-SDNM) and another 341 removed from all southern Arizona BLM lands with law enforcement officer involvement;
- Bicycle removals: 1725 mostly from Tohono O'odham Nation (1420 being recycled through BICKAS and other routes; 325 from the SDNM being put to good use through Goodwill);
- Roads and Trail rehabilitated, removed or restored: 50 individuals routes plus 50 miles; 51 miles of road maintained or brought back to safe use;
- Sensitive area protection: two riparian areas protected by barricades but one repeatedly rebuilt in the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area (LCNCA) after smugglers repeatedly broke through; new fencing along the Waterman Area of Critical Environmental Concern (in the IFNM) for 2 miles; and innumerable fence repairs by crews;
- Barriers and barricades: 1750 feet of guardrail along road and a short pipe rail vehicle barricade were installed;
- Native areas restored to native vegetation: 20 acres;
- Watershed restored: The Malpais Borderlands Group in southeastern Arizona placed 1950 structures, ranging from plugs to dams, to create soil stability and establish native grasses.

Additionally, the SCA and Youth Corps crews as well as other volunteers were provided protective gear for the job; the SCA received specific training including advanced first aid; communication was upgrade for field crews; and tools and supplies were provided.

**Special Border Security Details 2003-2005**

Thousands of immigrants and smugglers of controlled substances and UDIs cross BLM and adjacent lands each day. In 2005 the BLM San Pedro National Conservation Area was also the site of the Minuteman Project.

For the last three years (and continuing into FY2006), BLM Arizona law enforcement has been provided with some of the "Kolbe" funding to provide security for crews completing cleanup and rehabilitation of lands and to provide emergency care to persons found in distress. Other indirect goals met were to increase the law enforcement presence in order to serve as a deterrent for undocumented immigrant and drug smuggling, prevent additional resource damage and trash dumping, and provide increased visitor and employee safety on public lands near the border.

Funding amount:	FY03 \$70,000	FY04 \$83,000	FY05 \$103,000
Details: Arizona and other BLM rangers	7/6/03 – 9/20/03 3 additional rangers assigned; worked 600 hours of overtime plus base	4/4/04 – 5/29/04 2 additional rangers	Rangers from El Central CA assisted Yuma Field Office; other AZ field offices assisted the Phoenix and Gila Districts
Base time contributed by rangers outside of southern Arizona	1,200 hours	1280 hours	-
Overtime by local (BLM AZ) rangers	800 hours	800 hours	2, 247 hours

BLM law enforcement officers include both special agents and locally-assigned rangers. Details are sanctioned assignments of officers outside their home unit.

Listed below are law enforcement statistics from special details associated with this project of mitigation for immigrant impacts (taken from Significant Activity Reports):

Statistics	FY03	FY04	FY05
Stolen Vehicles Removed	6	34	68
Vehicles Impounded tied to UDI Smuggling	53	167 UDI and Narcotic smuggling	121
Undocumented Immigrants Detained for USBP	192	1,284	597
Pounds of Marijuana Seized	6,254	2,820	924
Assaults on Ranger (by vehicle)	1	-	2
Weapons Seized	3	-	8
Backup to Assault of Border Patrol Officer	1	-	4
First Aid Provided to Injured Persons	2	-	41
Assist Recovery of UDI Exposure Fatalities	11	-	3
Prosecutions for Title 21 offences	-	14	-
Emergency medical	-	137	-

assistance incidents			
Border security details	-	-	41
Search and Rescue	-	-	8

## Are these activities effective for mitigating impacts?

*"I would hate to think about what this Monument would look like without this funding. It wouldn't look much like a National Monument. We have no other capacity to remove trash, let alone the hundreds of vehicles and bicycles." Gene Dahlem, Manager (retired), Sonoran Desert National Monument, October 2005*

Although the yearly efforts are directed at the symptoms and not the cause of the immigration problem, we are realizing some valuable positive results. Rehabilitating illegal roads and establishing barriers work in most instances and traffic over these routes has been redirected. Secondly, we have found that a clean area is less likely to encourage littering than an area with existing concentrations of trash. Thirdly, trash removal helps with monitoring of current illegal use patterns.

Some sites that are cleaned up do remain clean when later monitored. Examples include the Siphon Canyon area of the Ft. Bowie National Historic Site as well as the Bear Springs Canyon. The NPS manager noted that after the Canyon was cleaned up, we noticed a significant decrease in UDA traffic.

Cochise County officials noted a similar situation. Monitoring at cleaned up sites along state routes showed that smaller amounts of trash are being deposited at a slower rate. The Malpai Borderlands Group commented on the "Good News" in their 2005 report: "There have been large areas that were trashed, that are now clean. Some of the areas are new trash and some are being cleaned again because of new traffic".

SCA interns on the Sonoran Desert and Ironwood Forest National Monuments noticed that once illegal roads and paths were raked out and nature began to creep back in, these areas no longer attracted traffic and therefore were rehabilitated.

In sum, the special annual appropriations were spent directly by BLM and partners for on-the-ground activities that mitigate the impacts of illegal smuggling. Public lands are cleaner as a result of this effort.

It is also true, however, that some areas have yet to receive any attention due to the funding levels or to remoteness and steepness and the crews on the ground are just barely keeping ahead of the litter and constant damages to infrastructure.

*"If we didn't have this funding to gather resources to use YCOSA and SCAs to do the work, we would be buried in trash. This has been absolutely beneficial and remains extremely important." Bill Childress, Manager, San Pedro Riparian Natural Conservation Area, February 2006*

List: End-of-Year Reports that have been made available by BLM:

Southeast Arizona 2003 Project to Mitigate Environmental Degradation Caused by Illegal Immigrants: End-of-Year Report

Southern Arizona Project to Address Public Land Degradation as a Result of Illegal Immigration 2004: End-of-Year Report

Southern Arizona Project to Mitigate Environmental Damages Resulting from Illegal Immigration: 2005 End-of-Year Report

Attachment #1:  
Map of Southern Arizona Borderlands



Attachment #2: Illustrations of the Impacts and Efforts